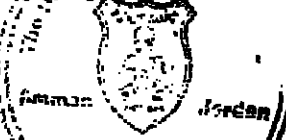


EC food stocks worth over \$8 billion

BRUSSELS (R) — Unwanted food stocks held in European Community (EC) stores are now valued at more than nine billion ECUs (\$8 billion), demonstrating the urgent need for reform of EC farm policy, a report said Monday. In its 1985 review of agricultural markets, the Brussels-based EC Commission, responsible for the day-to-day management of the community, added that the figure excluded "very substantial costs for storage and interest payments." At the end of October, stocks of butter totalled 977,000 tonnes, beef 730,000 tonnes, cereals 18.4 million tonnes, and skimmed milk powder 502,000 tonnes. The report said the size of the stocks depressed market prices within the community and contributed to lower prices on international markets. Total farm spending in 1986 is expected to reach \$18 billion, some 70 per cent of the entire EC budget.

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Khaddam, Kayed hold talks

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Interior Minister Hassan Al Kayed, currently visiting Syria, held talks on Monday with Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam. The talks covered the current situation in the Middle East as well as bilateral relations. Mr. Kayed arrived here at the head of an official delegation at the invitation of his Syrian counterpart Mohammad Ghannouch.

Abu Taleb begins Cairo talks

CAIRO (Petra) — The first session of Jordanian-Egyptian military talks began here on Monday under the chairmanship of Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb and his Egyptian counterpart General Ibrahim Al Orabi. Prior to the talks Lt. Gen. Abu Taleb viewed data collecting and electronic equipment models at the general headquarters of the Egyptian Armed Forces.

Sudan seeks resumption of aid

KUWAIT (R) — Sudan's finance minister opened a round of talks on Monday aimed at reviving vital Arab aid to his country, halted when ex-president Jafar Numeiri held power. Minister Sid Ahmad Taufiq Osman said on arrival here that he hopes to reactivate agreements by which the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) would renew credit to Sudan.

Israel to replace 2 diplomats involved in spying case

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel will appoint new scientific attaches to the United States to replace two diplomats recalled over the arrest of a U.S. navy analyst accused of spying for Israel, an Israeli newspaper said Monday. Haaretz said Yosef Yagur and Ilan Ravid, recalled from New York and Washington in connection with the arrest of intelligence analyst Jonathan Pollard in November, would not return to their posts. The two were among Israel's questioned here last month by U.S. investigators seeking information on documents Pollard is suspected of having given Israel.

Columbia launch delayed again

CAPE CANAVERAL (AP) — A faulty fuel line valve on Monday forced a second postponement of the launch of Columbia with a crew of seven, including a U.S. congressman, on the first of three consecutive space shuttle missions to study Halley's Comet. "We have scrubbed for today," said launch controller commentator Jim Bell. "We'll take another hard look at it tomorrow and come back tomorrow and do it right," launch director Gene Thomas told the astronauts, who had been in Columbia's cabin awaiting launch for nearly four hours.

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Iraqis retake parts of Majnoon Islands

President Hussein warns Iran of catastrophe

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said on Monday its troops had recaptured parts of the southern Majnoon Island oil-fields, seized by Iranian forces in a Gulf war offensive early in 1984.

A high command communique said two brigades of the Iraqi Third Army Corps launched a surprise attack overnight and retook several kilometres of enemy-held territory, killing hundreds of Iranians and wounding many more.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, meanwhile, declared in a broadcast speech on Monday that any fresh Iranian offensive on the Gulf war front would only end in catastrophe for Tehran's leaders.

Later, the Iraqi military spokesman reported an Iranian F-5 warplane was downed in a dogfight with Iraqi jet fighters in the northern part of the common border and was "sighted plunging down in flames."

The F-5 was one of two Iranian warplanes that tried to cross Iraqi air space at 8:10 a.m., seeking to raid a residential complex in the Rawanduz region in northeastern Iraq, according to the spokesman.

In a nation-wide radio and television address marking the 65th anniversary of the Iraqi armed forces, President Hussein stressed that the Iraqi armed forces were determined to choke off the economy of Iran, by blocking its oil exports.

Shortly after the speech, the Iraqi military command issued the communique about the offensive to regain the southern islands of Majnoon from Iranian hands.

The Iraqi forces have captured the liberated regions along Majnoon, after evicting the Iranians in a battle that cost them hundreds of troops killed and wounded," said the communique.

The Iraqis had captured Majnoon from the Iraqis in bloody battles in February 1984.

"Our forces took hundreds of Iranian soldiers prisoner, and our losses were nil in men and equipment," added the communique.

In his speech, President Hussein paid high tribute to the "women and men of Iraq who have so fortified the (southern) Huweizah marshland that the enemy stands to pay heavily in the event of another aggression there."

"As time goes, the enemy gets weaker and weaker, while the Iraqis grow stronger," he said. "The aggressors have been depleting their potentials while we, the defenders, are consecrating our faith in our homeland."

In his 35-minute, sledgehammer speech, the 48-year-old Iraqi leader denounced the Iranian regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini as a "bunch of imposters, who have been instigating their people to commit desperate military adventures against Iraq."

"Let them prepare for aggression, and we tell them that the steel fists of the Iraqis await you," he warned. "We will turn Huweizah into a mass grave for the aggressors."

The Huweizah marshes were twice invaded by the Iranians in major offensives — in the autumn of 1984 and the spring of 1985 — when, according to Iraqi military communiques, the "human wave" onslaught was beaten back at enormous losses for the Iraqis.

Iranian forces first captured the desolate, man-made Majnoon Islands, north of the southern Iraqi port of Basra, in February 1984.

Iran, at the time, said there were some 50 oil wells on the islands which stand on rich oil deposits, estimated worth billions of dollars.

But it was not immediately clear from Monday's Baghdad communique exactly which part of the marshlands had been won back from the Iraqis, or whether any of the oil wells were involved.

The communique said the Third Army Corps commander, Major-General Maher Abdul Rashid, planned the attack which was carried out under direct orders from President Hussein.

Arab diplomatic sources have

(Continued on page 3)

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(Continued on page 3)

U.S. to press for joint stand with allies to isolate Libya

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States will renew efforts to persuade its Western allies to join in retaliation against Libya because of its alleged links with terrorism, the White House said on Monday. And meanwhile it was keeping the world guessing on whether any military action was imminent.

"Those responsible and actively involved (in guerrilla activity) should be kept guessing and not sleep well at night as far as what the United States might do," presidential spokesman Larry Speakes told reporters.

Asked about a warning from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi that his suicide squads would attack Americans in their own streets, if the United States took military action, he replied: "We take all threats seriously... we remain on guard."

Speakes said there was a growing realization among America's friends, hitherto reluctant to act against Libya, of "the threat Qadhafi poses to the world."

"We would think our European allies would be more likely now than before to join us in isolating Libya," he said.

"We will be consulting with our European allies and others regarding the possibility of a concerted effort on the part of governments against Libya."

Libya has been accused by Washington of having direct links with the guerrillas responsible for last month's attacks on airports in Rome and Vienna in which 19 people died, including four of the gunmen. Col. Qadhafi denies any connection with the attacks.

Speakes said Washington rejected Col. Qadhafi's denial that guerrillas had training camps in his country.

"That is patently untrue. We have firm evidence on camps in Libya that train terrorists," he said, adding that they had existed for about a year.

Speakes said that Mr. Reagan had conferred on Monday with his foreign policy and intelligence advisers, but refused to say whether Libya was discussed.

Speakes declined to say whether the White House wanted European backing for military or economic sanctions.

Asked about the West German government's statement on Friday that it opposed economic sanctions against Libya, Speakes said: "It seemed to be a very general statement, nothing specific." Italy and West Germany are major trading partners of Libya and buy

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King honours union leaders and social workers

AMMAN (Petra) — Leaders of various trade unions and pioneers in social work in Jordan on Monday received awards conferred upon them by His Majesty King Hussein. The awards, granted in recognition of the contribution of trade union leaders and social workers to the development and welfare of the country, were handed over to them by Labour and Social Development Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan in a ceremony held in Amman.

Presenting the awards, Mr. Haj Hassan said they represented the King's appreciation of those leaders and pioneers in social work who contributed to building and developing the country and "are a true reflection of His Majesty's belief that the citizen is our dearest wealth."

Mr. Samir Qardan, secretary-general of the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions, thanked the King for the kind gesture of appreciation and recognition and pledged that the trade unions will remain to be "the faithful soldiers of Jordan."

Those honoured on Monday include: Omar Al Shalabi (Independence Medal of the Second Order), the family of Naji Abdul Aziz (Independence Medal of the Second Order), the family of Abdul Khaleq Yaqmour (Independence Medal of the Second Order), Mrs. Fortina Suleiman Al Sukkar (Independence Medal of the Third Order), Miss Bjeld Schelene (Al Kawab Medal of the Third Order) and Mr. Ahmed Qantar and Mr. Salim Jadoun (Al Kawab Medal of the Third Order).

OIC ministers begin talks in Fez with 90-point agenda

Islamic nations expected to endorse backing for Libya against foreign threats

FEZ, Morocco (Agencies) — The Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) opened its 16th foreign ministers meeting with a heavy 90-item agenda, including a move by Libya to seek support for American threats against its territory.

The 45-nation organisation also is expected to discuss the five-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

Conference sources told Reuters the presence of an official Iranian

Rifts over foreign policy reemerge in Rome coalition

ROME (R) — Italy's ruling coalition parties bickered on Monday over the implications of a guerrilla attack at Rome airport, less than two months after overcoming a government crisis triggered by the hijacking of the Italian cruise liner Achille Lauro.

Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, a Christian Democrat, was criticised by government colleagues for pro-Libyan bias in the past and for failing to make his position clear after the Dec. 27 attack in which 16 people were killed.

The differences resurfaced as the government reflected what diplomatic and economic action to take, if any, in case Libya was proved to be behind the parallel attacks at Fiumicino and at Vienna's Schwechat airport, where three people died.

Liberal Party leader Alfredo Biondi said the coalition led by Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, instead of exhibiting a clear line, was wracked by bitter disputes at cabinet level involving also the foreign minister.

Franco Piccoli, president of the Christian Democratic Party, said he could not understand Libya's "privileged position" in Italian foreign policy and asked

for an internal party review of the situation.

(Italy is Libya's largest trading partner in the European Common Market, and trade with the North African country accounts for three per cent of all Italian trade, according to Italian government figures.)

Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini, leader of the pro-Israeli Republican Party which precipitated the four-week crisis last year, demanded observance of a policy declaration that ended the government crisis sparked by the Dec. 27 attack.

In that document the five coalition parties recognised the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as a legitimate negotiating partner, but only on condition that it renounced violence.

He also accused the government of pro-Arab bias.

Alfredo Pazzaglia, lower house leader of the opposition neo-fascists, said the government was again deeply divided over foreign policy, on party lines and within the different parties.

"While the ministers squabble among themselves, Italians pay the price of a foreign policy based not on principle but expediency," Mr. Pazzaglia said.



Labour Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan, on behalf of His Majesty King Hussein, presents awards granted by the King to trade union leaders in Jordan on Monday (Petra photo)

Those attending the presentation ceremony included Labour Under-Secretary Saleh Khasawneh, Social Development Under-Secretary Mohammad Ali Wardam, General Union of Voluntary Societies Chairman Abdullah Khatib and senior trade union officials and representatives of institutions working in the field of social work.

The weekly oil review said as a result Syria has been forced to make spot purchases of oil from international trading firms, and has also received oil assistance from Kuwait.

The review said Iran has suspended oil deliveries pending the payment by Damascus of approximately \$65 million in accrued interest from the 1983 agreement between the two countries.

Syria has an accumulated debt of over \$1 billion, accrued under the 1983 agreement for the supply of six million tonnes of Iran crude annually, MEES said.

The review added that Syria agreed to reschedule repayment in cash and goods during a visit to Tehran by Syrian Premier Abdul Raouf Al Kassar early last month.

Syria is the main Arab ally of Iran in its war against Iraq. As a result Iran's oil sales to Syria have been at a discount, with five out of the six million tonnes priced \$2.50 under the market price and the remaining one million tonnes provided free of charge to the Syrian army.

MEES pointed out that the discontinuation of the Iranian oil supplies coincided with increased Iranian criticism of Syria for its recent rapprochement with Jordan and its efforts to impose a Syrian-sponsored peace agreement to end Lebanon's civil war.

(Continued on page 4)

Maltese court begins hearing evidence in Egyptair hijack

VALLETTA (AP) — Maltese magistrates began hearing evidence on Monday in the November piracy and storming of an Egyptair jetliner, the first step in bringing to trial the lone surviving hijacker suspect.

A heavy contingent of military personnel and police surrounded the St. Elmo Fort, an old British garrison near Valletta's Grand Harbour where a makeshift courtroom has been set up for the proceedings.

Sixty people were killed in the Nov. 23 hijack and subsequent Egyptian commando raid on the commandeered Boeing 737.

At the request of the defence, the court ordered a ban on the publication of testimony. Among those testifying on Monday was the doctor who treated the suspect, Omar Mohammad Ali Rezaq, at a Malta hospital for wounds he received in the hijacking and storming.

Also present at the hearing were U.S. Ambassador Gary Matthews and Egyptian Ambassador Ahmad Ali Ann.

Rezaq, 22, appeared at the hearing in a dark blue suit and blue shirt. He will not testify until the trial, for which the date has not been set.

Rezaq is the sole survivor of the three gunmen who seized the jet shortly after it left Athens for Cairo. He faces 16 charges including murder, attempted murder, and illegal possession of weapons and explosives.

He pleaded innocent when he first appeared in court Dec. 12.

Rezaq has been charged with the murders of American Scarlett Rogenkamp and Israeli Nitzen Mendelsohn, who were among five passengers shot and thrown off the plane as it was parked for 22 tension-filled hours on the airport tarmac before the storming.

Most of the deaths were caused by smoke inhalation and burns from an explosion and fire that engulfed the interior of the plane following the Egyptian commando raid.

Maltese authorities have said that the hijackers, realising the plane was being stormed, threw hand grenades.

Rezaq is also charged with causing an explosion, attempted homicide, and holding hostage the passengers and crew.

His lawyer, Joseph Mifsud, asked that testimony in the hearing not be published because he said it may influence potential jurors in the trial.

Iran said to have halted oil supplies to Syria

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran has suspended crude oil deliveries to Syria, its main Arab ally, pending the payment by Syria of overdue accounts, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported on Monday.

The weekly oil review said as a result Syria has been forced to make spot purchases of oil from international trading firms, and has also received oil assistance from Kuwait.

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(Continued on page 4)

Gandhi assassins fled after shooting, lawyer says

NEW DELHI (R) — The chief defence lawyer in the Indira Gandhi murder trial said on Sunday he could prove that the prime minister's "real assassins" fled after the shooting, but the judge rejected his request for police radio records to back the claim.

Pran Nath Lekhi, lawyer for principal defendant Satwant Singh, said the log-book of the New Delhi police station would unmask the mysterious killers, who fled in a "Runaway car."

Lekhi said entries in the log-book were pencilled in and the document was therefore "fraudulent and suspicious."

"The wireless message about Indira Gandhi's shooting on Oct. 31, 1984, went out at 8.55 a.m. and not at 9.10 a.m. as the prosecution suggests," Lekhi told the court.

He said nearly 100 bullets were

fired during the attack on Mrs. Gandhi, not 30 as recorded, and that there were more weapons involved than the two used by the alleged assassins, Satwant Singh and Beant Singh.

But Judge Mahesh Chandra said it would be inadvisable to call for the log-book after all evidence had been recorded.

He added Lekhi had had an opportunity to cross-examine the 73 prosecution witnesses in the trial, now in its eighth month.

The makeshift courtroom in Delhi's top-security Tihar jail was packed on Sunday in what could be the trial's final week.

Court officials said Judge Chandra will deliver his verdict a few days after Lekhi winds up his defence arguments.

Satwant Singh and two other Sikhs accused of taking part in the murder conspiracy, Kehar Singh and Balbir Singh, sat dressed in suits behind a bullet-proof screen.

Beant Singh was shot dead by other guards immediately after Mrs. Gandhi was gunned down outside her New Delhi residence.

"This is not an ordinary murder trial. It is an encounter with history," Lekhi said.

He charged that the case itself was a conspiracy against the accused and asked: "How am I to prove that here are innocent people who are arraigned only because they are Sikhs? This mask I must tear apart."

Lekhi said the prosecution case was filled with "one fabrication after another" and told the judge: "Your judgment will decide not merely a case but also whether there will be peace in Punjab... Mrs. Gandhi is dead, but my country is still living."

Mrs. Gandhi was murdered five months after she sent troops into the Sikhs' holiest shrine, Amritsar's Golden Temple, to root out extremists fighting for a separate Sikh nation which they called Khalistan.

The assassination sparked off four days of nationwide anti-Sikh rioting in which more than 2,700 people were killed.

Lekhi said a key prosecution document titled "Indira de Sikh" (the Sikhs of India), recovered from the office of Kehar Singh, did not prove the theory of conspiracy.

He read out an English translation of the Punjabi pamphlet, saying it only urged a social boycott of Sikhs in the government and Mrs. Gandhi's Congress (I) Party and nowhere called for a revenge attack on the Indian leader.

Peres: Israel, Egypt close to resolving 3 major issues

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Monday that Israel and Egypt were close to resolving three issues which have threatened the seven-year-old peace accord.

"We are very close to agreement that will give positive substance to the relations between the two countries," Peres told reporters outside his office.

Israel Radio reported that Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak has suggested that Peres come to Cairo at the end of the month to wind up year-long negotiations over a border dispute, return of Egypt's ambassador to Tel Aviv, and improvement of trade and tourism links.

Egypt's charge d'affaires, Mohamed Bassiouny, was not in his office to comment on the report. Officials in the prime minister's

office expressed satisfaction with clarifications on Egypt's positions sent in written and oral form by Mr. Mubarak over the past two weeks.

"There is now a mutual basis for a package deal," said the officials, who demanded anonymity. "The next step will be to bring the proposals for discussion to the inner cabinet," a group of 10 key ministers.

But it was not immediately clear if Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Peres' rival and partner in the fragile coalition which governs Israel, would agree to Egypt's proposals.

A major sticking point is likely to be the method of resolving a dispute over the tiny beachfront land of Tabu on the Red Sea. Egypt has insisted that the dispute over Tabu, currently in Israeli hands, be resolved by international arbitration.

Peres, head of the Labour Party, has accepted the idea. But Shamir, leader of the Likud Bloc, has demanded that non-binding conciliation be tried first.

Peres needs a majority in the cabinet to get approval for arbitration, but as the cabinet is split between Labour and Likud ministers, Shamir's party has the power to veto the resolution.

A Shamir aide, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the foreign minister has been studying the correspondence between the two leaders and will meet with Peres on Monday night.

The prime minister's office said two other disagreements will be covered in the so-called package deal. Israel wants Egypt to return its ambassador, who was removed from Tel Aviv when Israel invaded Lebanon in June 1982.

In addition, Israel has contended that Egypt has failed to fulfill normalisation agreements on various subjects including commerce and tourism.

Speaking to party activists Sunday night, Former Foreign Minister Abba Eban said: "When I see the reactions of the foreign minister, I get the feeling we don't need a Foreign Ministry at all. All we need is a tape recorder which says, 'I don't know what the question is but the answer is no.'" His remarks were broadcast Monday on Israel Radio.

Lebanese militia chief swamped with mail from U.S.

BAALBEK, Lebanon (R) — The Shi'ite Muslim militia chief gazed in bemusement at a deluge of letters from American school children just delivered to him at this historic town in east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

"What can I do with 400 letters? I don't have time or money to answer them all," Hussein Musawi, head of the Baalbek-based fundamentalist "Islamic Army," said in mock despair. The stack of letters, most with North Carolina postmarks, were written by American high-school children pleading for the release of six Americans kidnapped in Lebanon.

Mr. Musawi, 43, denies he was behind the series of kidnaps that began 22 months ago. They were claimed by the radical, secretive Islamic Jihad (holy war) movement which also says it holds four French hostages.

He asked Reuters to convey apologies to his youthful correspondents for not replying individually, adding that he suspected U.S. intelligence of prompting the postal campaign.

"Take care, you never know what might be inside," the bearded leader warned as he snatched away an unopened missive. "I was very pleased to get letters from students because I am a teacher myself," he said. "I tell them we have nothing to do with the kidnapping of the Americans or the French."

"They should know that the people of Palestine and South Lebanon are now scattered in camps and roads along the streets," he declared. "I wrote a letter, a 17-year-old told me, 'I was planning to join the U.S. army after leaving school and suggest that the hostages be released safely before there is a war.'"

lost annual for compassion and greater international understanding. Several pupils described their hobbies and asked for Lebanese pen pals — but forgot to mention the hostages.

Baalbek's overworked postman delivered one letter marked "His excellency the mayor," drawing a smile from Mr. Musawi.

Mr. Musawi, whose group split from the mainstream Shi'ite Muslim movement after Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, urged the students to press Washington to revise its Middle East policy.

"Through Reuters we invite some of those students... to visit us to see for themselves the calamities that befall our people with the complicity of the U.S. government," he said.

Mr. Musawi's group cooperates with several hundred Iranian Revolutionary Guards who arrived in 1982 to help fight the Israelis. They saw no action, but stayed in the Bekaa to spread the teachings of Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

U.S. actions unlikely to curb Libya

By Christopher Hanson
Reuters

WASHINGTON — The United States has called for diplomatic moves to isolate Libya, but Middle East experts say economic sanctions and other options are unlikely to curb what Washington has termed "an outlaw country."

Washington says Abu Nidal, leader of the Palestinian group widely accused of the Dec. 27 airport attacks in Rome and Vienna, has been aided by Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi.

Last week the State Department renewed a call, already made several times during the Reagan administration, for international cooperation in isolating Libya, which President Ronald Reagan earlier declared as an "outlaw state."

Given the heavy dependence of many Western nations on Libyan oil and trade, U.S. officials are not optimistic that an effective international programme of economic sanctions can be set in motion.

An estimated 15,000 Italians and 8,000 Britons work in Libya — potential hostages if those nations acted forcefully against Col. Qadhafi, according to Western diplomats.

U.S. officials say the Reagan administration is considering imposing new economic measures on its own or taking military action against Libya.

But, acting alone, Washington's options are unpromising, according to private Middle East specialists in Washington.

The United States has already severely curbed trade with Libya, banning exports of military items and curtailing oil purchases.

These sanctions have not brought changes in Col. Qadhafi's policies, U.S. diplomats concede, and Washington has little remaining economic leverage on the North African country.

Even if Washington managed to secure the cooperation of key allies in imposing tougher sanctions, the results might not be effective, judging by the history of sanctions.

A U.S. grain embargo imposed against the Soviet Union after it sent troops into Afghanistan in December 1979 drew sharp criticism from presidential candidate Reagan for hurting U.S. farmers more than the Soviet Union. Moscow simply bought grain elsewhere.

Mr. Reagan and Pentagon officials, including Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, have warned repeatedly against retaliation which endangered innocent civilians. They have complained of the difficulty in identifying specific targets in disparate commando movements.

Direct U.S. military action could cause potentially rebellious Libyans to rally round Col. Qadhafi and undermine opposition groups, according to Middle East analyst Jim Phillips of the conservative Heritage Foundation think-tank.

Heritage argues it would be better to aid opposition factions quietly. Some psychologists and West European officials contend that the best way of dealing with Col. Qadhafi is either to engage him in dialogue or to ignore him. They accuse Washington of exaggerating Libyan military power.

But a U.S. official told Reuters it was impossible to ignore Col. Qadhafi, given his penchant for "trouble," and that his mercurial personality was a serious obstacle to negotiations.

Dialogue might once have worked, but now Col. Qadhafi is seen here as unpredictable and a "big cause" the official said.

A recent study by the respected Institute of International Economics in Washington reports that of 68 economic sanctions imposed by Washington since 1914, only nine were truly effective and many failed.

Gary Hufbauer, co-author of the study, wrote of economic sanctions: "The grain embargo (and) pipeline sanction... have now cast doubt on their usefulness."

Another U.S. option being widely discussed in Washington is military action.

U.S. officials say the Pentagon sent a list of military options, including air strikes, to Reagan last week, but stress that such a move could raise serious problems.

"This kind of thing would be a lot different and a whole lot tougher than the recent Israeli raid on the PLO in Tunisia," one official said.

"There are also about 1,500 Americans in Libya who could suddenly become hostages," he said. The State Department last week urged all Americans to leave Libya for their own safety.

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Soviet defence team due in Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — A top Soviet military team led by Deputy Defence Minister Gen. Vladimir Govorov will arrive in Kuwait on Saturday for an official six-day visit, a Defence Ministry official said Monday.

Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah said last month he and Gen. Govorov would discuss "military affairs, especially armaments" during the visit.

Moscow has become a key arms supplier to Kuwait. Sheikh Salem arranged a deal in Moscow 18 months ago which the Kuwait News Agency said was worth over \$300 million.

Gen. Govorov was originally to have visited Kuwait from Dec. 21, but his trip was postponed without explanation.

Kuwait, only 50 kilometres from the southern front of the Iran-Iraq war, has boosted its arsenal to deter any possible attack on oil or other vital installations.

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Gunman identifies Rome hotels where his group stayed

ROME (R) — Wounded gunman Mohammed Sarhan has identified two Rome hotels where his accomplices stayed before the Dec. 27 airport attack, sources close to the investigation said.

Sarhan, recovering from bullet wounds he received in the attack, was driven round the city centre in an ambulance with magistrate Domenico Sica and senior detectives.

He pinpointed two medium-priced hotels, one near the Vatican and another near the railway station, where he said he had met some of his five accomplices who either took part in or supplied weapons for the attack at Fiumicino Airport.

Three gunmen were shot dead and two others, said by Sarhan to have handed over the assault rifles and hand grenades in Rome's Piazza Venezia, have not been traced.

Italian authorities issued photographs of Sarhan and his three fellow gunmen in an effort to discover more about their movements prior to the attack.

Sarhan told Mr. Sica later he had taken part in commando operations in Kuwait before the Rome airport attack, leading investigators to suspect he may be older than his declared age of 19, the sources said.

Investigators have meanwhile ruled out a suggestion that the extremist Red Brigades supplied the Kalashnikov weapons that were used on Dec. 27.

Italy is considering recalling its ambassador from Tripoli if Libya is proved to have been involved in the parallel attacks at Rome and Vienna airports, diplomatic sources said Sunday night.

The sources said the sanctions in conjunction with other European Community countries were also being discussed at cabinet level.

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Tunisian labour leader starts hunger strike

TUNIS (R) — The jailed former chief of Tunisia's biggest trade union has begun a hunger strike to protest against his prison conditions, union sources said today.

Habib Achour, 72, was sentenced to a year's imprisonment on Dec. 31 for breaking into a fishing cooperative nearly two years ago. The former chief of the 350,000-strong General Union of Tunisian Workers (UGTT) began his fast Sunday in the eastern town of Sfax, the sources said.

Tunisia's largest officially recognised opposition group, the Movement of Democratic Socialists (MDS), said in a statement after a political bureau meeting Sunday that Achour's imprisonment was legally unjustified.

He pointed out two medium-priced hotels, one near the Vatican and another near the railway station, where he said he had met some of his five accomplices who either took part in or supplied weapons for the attack at Fiumicino Airport.

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Isreal sees lowest immigration in 1985

TEL AVIV (AP) — Fewer people immigrated to Israel than at any time in history, an immigration spokesman said Monday. He said Israel's ailing economy was largely to blame.

In 1985, 11,998 immigrants arrived in Israel, compared with 19,230 in 1984, a 41 per cent decrease, said Gad Ben-Ari, spokesman for the Ministry of Absorption.

"One problem is the economic difficulties we are experiencing. It doesn't make Israel attractive right now," Ben-Ari told the Associated Press.

Israel currently has a 200 per cent inflation rate and about 6 per cent unemployment rate. In 1984, inflation reached a record 445 per cent.

Ben-Ari said a second factor was a perception in 1985 that Israel was a target of terror attacks. Israeli army figures show that 17 Israelis were killed in 1985 in anti-Israeli attacks in and around the occupied territories.

In addition, he said, the figure was so much lower than in 1984 because that year thousands of Ethiopian Jews were rescued from that famine-stricken African nation in a secret airlift known as "Operation Moses."

Last year, 2,035 Ethiopians arrived in Israel compared with 7,807 in 1984, Ben-Ari said.

However, Ben-Ari said he expects an immigration increase in 1986 because of the success of the government's fiscal recovery plan implemented last June. "We are already seeing some improvement in the last two months," he said.

Israel has also tried to attract immigrants by conducting "employment fairs" in New York, Los Angeles and Palo Alto, California. This past fall, and in addition, is making a new effort to attract South African Jewish immigrants.

Israel's record low immigration numbers is accompanied by expected record high emigration rates. Officials predict some 30,000 of Israel's 4.2 million people will leave the country in 1986.

Immigration from the Soviet Union last year stood at 342, nearly the same figure as 1984.

Kaddoumi holds Mideast talks in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — Farouk Kaddoumi, a close aide to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat, is visiting Moscow, a PLO spokesman said Monday.

Mr. Kaddoumi, head of the Political Department of the PLO, arrived on Saturday and will leave Tuesday, he told Reuters. He gave no further details.

Western diplomats said rumours of the visit had been circulating for some time. Its main focus was likely to be Middle East peace prospects, though the Dec. 27 attacks at Rome and Vienna airports and the subsequent U.S.-Libyan tensions would also be discussed, they said.

Despite close links with some of his bitterest critics, the Kremlin has maintained its support for Mr. Arafat, arguing repeatedly that the Palestinians must remain united in the PLO.

Home news

NEWS IN BRIEF

King Hussein condoles Al Tai family

His Majesty King Hussein deplored the death of the late Mr. Al Tai, the deputy speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives, who passed away on January 6. The late Mr. Tai had assumed several important positions and was elected to the Parliament in 1970.

Farmers in valley to be penalised

AMMAN (Petra) — Agriculture Minister Ahmad Dakqan requested that the Agricultural Marketing and Production Company (AMPCO) not purchase any vegetables or fruit from a number of farmers in the Jordan Valley who did not adhere to the company's cropping regulations. Mr. Dakqan's request was contained in a letter addressed to the AMPCO Director Mr. Farwan. The AMPCO usually buys agricultural products from farmers at reasonable prices.

New Shoman centre to open Wednesday

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Abdul Hamid Shoman Public Library, Information Bank and Cultural and Scientific Centre will be inaugurated on Wednesday under the patronage of Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai. The library, bank and centre were established by the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation and will be open for the public 12 hours a day beginning Jan. 11.

Shaddadi arrives for two-day visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Council of Arab Ministers of Justice Secretary General Mr. Mohammad Al Shaddadi arrived in Amman Monday on a two-day visit for talks with Minister of Justice Riad Al Shakra on issues of common concern to Jordan and the council. He is also expected to review with Mr. Shakra recommendations passed by the recent council meetings held in Rabat and means of implementing them. Also to be discussed are subjects to be taken up by the council in its forthcoming session.

Health Minister makes stop in Dubai

DUBAI (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh met here Monday with United Arab Emirates Defence Minister Sheikh Mohammed Rashid Al Maktoum in the presence of Jordan's general consul in Dubai Nabil Al Tallouni. Dr. Hamzeh arrived here Monday on his way to Muscat at the head of a Jordanian delegation to attend the 45th session of the executive bureau of the Arab Health Ministers Council, which opens Tuesday. Dr. Hamzeh said that the executive bureau will, among other things, approve the agenda of the council for its next session in Morocco in March.

Sharari to attend Baghdad meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will attend the meetings of Arab sport and youth ministers which will start in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad on Jan. 14. Minister of Youth Hisham Al Sharari and Jordan Youth Organisation Director General Mohammad Jameel Abu Al Tayyib will represent Jordan in the meetings.



IRAQI MARTYRS CEMETERY: Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Ghafel Jassem Hussein (third from left, front row) led a delegation to the cemetery of the Iraqi Martyrs in Ma'raq to honour the fallen on the anniversary of the creation of the Iraqi army. The delegation is shown here during a reading of verses from the Holy Quran. (Petra photo)

Egyptian leaders pay tribute to peace efforts of King Hussein

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mr. Rifat Vahjoub, Speaker of the Egyptian Peoples Assembly and Mr. Subhi Abdul Haki, Speaker of the Shoura Council, each paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein's efforts to establish a comprehensive, durable and just peace in the Middle East region and expressed their support for holding an international peace conference.

During meetings with Mr. Ahmad Al Lawzi, Speaker of Jordan's Upper House of Parliament, Mr. Vahjoub and Mr. Abdul Hakim appealed to all Arab countries to put their political differences in their proper perspective so that they do not constitute an obstacle to joint Arab action.

Mr. Lawzi stressed Jordan's stand vis-a-vis holding an international peace conference to be attended by the United Nations Security Council's five permanent members and all parties to the conflict including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Mr. Lawzi also paid tribute to the courageous stand of Iraq in defending Arab land against Iranian aggression, and emphasised Jordan's efforts to achieve an end to the Iran-Iraq war by peaceful means.

Mr. Lawzi also met Monday with Egyptian Prime Minister Ali Lutfi and reviewed bilateral cooperation in the political, economic, agricultural and commercial fields and co-nality exchange between both countries.

Mr. Lawzi said that subjects related to the co-nality protocol between both countries will be discussed during the meeting of the joint Jordanian-Egyptian co-nittee.

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Arabsat 1 operational after successful repair

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Arabsat-1 (A-1), the Arab World's first satellite communications venture, is now "operational," after successfully dealing with the technical difficulties which had plagued it since last February's launch into orbit around the earth. Repairs to the satellite, however, have reduced its life span by 10 per cent, Minister of Communications Muhieddin Al Hussein said on Monday.

Earlier press reports said that A-1 "has failed to function," or "is partially functioning," while another report said that "A-1 disappeared in outer space."

Mr. Hussein, in an interview with the Jordan Times, denied press reports that the system was lost, but indicated that A-1 underwent some technical problems which have "successfully been sorted out."

Explaining the reasons for the reduction in A-1's life span, Mr. Hussein said the manufacturer's last option to adjust A-1 to its pre-Jordan orbit was to fire its reserve and emergency directional rockets in order to adjust its position.

Technical repairs on the A-1 were accomplished while the satellite remained in its orbit, but since the number of reserve rockets is limited, "the A-1's life span was reduced by 10 per cent," said Mr. Hussein.

Jordan, he continued, was the first Arabsat organisation member to notice that it was not receiving A-1's signals. Jordan reported to the organisation and the French State Aerospace Group (AG), manufacturers of the satellite, and after intensive investigations, they concluded that A-1 was not adjusted to its proper geostatic angle. AG attempted to remedy the failure through a special device, the gearbox, in order to shift the satellite to a specific angle from which it can receive sun rays to recharge its batteries, and at the same time, transmit its signals clearly. Finally its geostatic angle was adjusted by firing the reserve and emergency directional rockets.

Mr. Hussein said that A-2, a second satellite which was put into orbit on June 25, 1985, "is working perfectly," and that AG sent A-2's gearbox to its original maker, the U.S. Hughes Aircraft Company for modifications in order to minimise the chances of any technical failures similar to the A-1's one.



Muhieddin Al Hussein

"Both satellites are now operational in their orbits," said six out of the 22 Arab members are receiving information from A-1 and A-2, Mr. Hussein said. Arabsat members with operational ground receiving stations are Jordan, Tunisia, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Djibouti.

A report carried by the Kuwaiti-based newspaper Al Rai' Al Aam earlier said that the Arabsat organisation requested the Saudi-based Red Sea Insurance Company, which assumed responsibility for A-1's insurance policy on June 10, to pay the organisation \$25 million for A-1's technical failures and operational losses.

Co-nitting on this report, Mr. Hussein said that it was the organisation's right to request compensation under the terms of the policy, especially that "A-1's life span has been reduced." He did not comment on whether the organisation successfully pressed its claims, but said "There are arguments and stands vis-a-vis the funding, but eventually we shall get our rights."

Another earlier report, carried by the Saudi-based Jaily Al Sharq Al Awsat, said that Mr. Ali Al Jashat, the Iraqi director-general of the Arabsat project, was fired by a co-nittee of six Arab com-

munication ministers who met in Riyadh last month.

The newspaper said that Dr. Jashat was sacked for "financial, administrative and technical inefficiencies" while another report from Al Rai' Al Aam said that Dr. Jashat has been accused of a scandal over A-1's financing and the project's services.

Mr. Hussein dismissed these reports and said that Dr. Jashat was ousted for "mismanagement and other reasons which had nothing to do with any financial entanglement. He simply could not organise any financial administration for the project although he had been in office for the past six years."

Mr. Hussein recently nominated Saudi Prince Sultan Ibn Salman as Dr. Jashat's predecessor.

"Prince Sultan is a well-experienced man, who has a university degree in Mass Communication, who is a military pilot and who was the first ever Arab astronaut to travel with the U.S. space shuttle 'Discovery' last July," said Mr. Hussein in support of his nomination.

The minister indicated that the majority of the 22 member Arab countries support the nomination. Elaborating on Arabsat's preparations for further difficulties, with either A-1 or A-2, Mr. Hussein said "there is a third satellite ready to be launched if need arises" and added that international satellite services are always available if any co-nality communication is available.

A Reuters report from Paris quoted an AG spokesman as saying that "A-1 is partially functioning but it is a shortage of ground stations to receive the satellite's signal." He said that 13 of the 22 Arab countries in the Arabsat group were asking use of A-1 and A-2. He added that the satellites had so far been used mainly for some television exchanges in the region, well below their full capabilities.

Mr. Hussein expressed hope that Jordan soon would be linked with the 22 Arabsat members after the rest of the Arabsat members have completed building ground stations to receive the satellite's signals.

Evaluating the Arabsat effort, he said: "It is a huge and very important project for a vital co-nality need. Despite some of the technical problems with A-1, any project as huge as this is apt to face some problems," he said.

Communiques issued regarding use of official cars, gas and tobacco prices

AMMAN (Petra) — An official co-nuniqué issued by Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Monday reaffirmed the need for the application of regulations concerning the use of official cars. The co-nuniqué said that many violations of these regulations are still being reported in spite of earlier warnings.

The co-nuniqué reaffirmed the need for all concerned authorities such as the Central Audit Bureau and public security officers to see to it that no such violations go unpunished and to apply the regulations strictly concerning the use of official vehicles.

According to the co-nuniqué, public security departments are authorised to impose all vehicles found in violation of the law if the licence plate numbers exceed the figure 1,033 and to report the matter to the Prime Ministry if the licence plate number is less than 1,000. The audit bureau will see to it that the regulations are implemented and government departments will have to take appropriate disciplinary measures against civil servants violating the regulations, with reports of these violations to be submitted to the prime minister.

Another co-nuniqué issued late Sunday following a meeting of the national Financial, Economic and Planning Committee said that the committee reviewed the general conditions of tobacco farmers in Jordan and decided to adjust tobacco prices for 1985 according to the following criteria:

A kilogramme of the highest

quality tobacco will be sold for 80 fils, the second for 60 fils, the third for 50 fils and the fourth for 30 fils a kilo, with additional funds to be paid from a special fund set up earlier to subsidise tobacco prices and support farmers.

A decision was also taken to set up a co-nuntee of representatives of the ministries of industry, finance, and customs to organise the cultivation of tobacco for the coming season. The financial planning co-nuntee also heard a report from the president of the Natural

Resources Authority (NRA) on negotiations held in China on the prospect of that country helping Jordan exploit its oil shale, and entrusted the ministers of energy and mineral resources and planning to follow up on this subject and to give it top priority.

The co-nuntee also endorsed a tobacco policy for 1985 and had a lengthy discussion about the condition of distributors of future crops in various regions of the country.

U.S. Congressmen arrive in Amman on separate visits

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A two-member U.S. congressional delegation met Monday with Acting Foreign Minister Hazem Nuseibah and discussed with him "the recent developments in the Middle East," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra said.

Dr. Nuseibah stressed at the meeting "the necessity of convening an international conference to achieve peace" in the region, to be attended by all parties involved and the five permanent members at the United Nations Security Council.

Ronald Marikie, a Republican from Montana and Hal Daub, a Republican from Nebraska, arrived here Sunday at the invitation

of the World Affairs Council (WAC). The two congressmen, accompanied by their aides, are scheduled to visit the Israeli-occupied West Bank and meet with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, the Speaker and members of the Lower House of Parliament and other Jordanian officials.

Another U.S. Congressman, Robert Torricelli, arrived separately on Sunday and was received Monday by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

Mr. Torricelli, a Democrat from New Jersey is a member of the Foreign Affairs sub-committee on the Middle East. It was not immediately known whether any of the congressmen will have an audience with His Majesty King Hussein.

JD 1 million of narcotics incinerated at JCF

FUHEIS (Petra) — JD one million worth of narcotics were destroyed on Monday at the JCF.

The Anti Narcotic and Forgery Department (ANFD) is playing a major role in countering drug trafficking at the local, regional, and international levels, according to Colonel Hisham Qaisi, director general of the ANFD.

Col. Qaisi said on Monday that his department confiscated in 1985 some one million captagon tablets, six kilogrammes of heroin, 416 kilogrammes of hashish and other quantities of opium. These narcotics were valued at approximately 1.2 million.

Col. Qaisi told the Jordanian News Agency on Monday.

He said 461 drug smugglers, brokers and addicts were arrested in 1985, 60 per cent of whom are non-Jordanians. Vehicles and other facilities used in narcotics smuggling and trafficking have also been confiscated, Col. Qaisi added.

According to the ANFD director general, Jordan is not considered a narcotics consuming, producing nor exporting country.

Iraqis retake parts of Majnoon Islands

(Continued from page 1)

Bracing for the expected onslaught, Iraq rushed 85,000 volunteers to build dykes and set up concrete barriers across the 2,400-square-kilometre marshland.

The Iraqis have said that some of these fortifications have been built at points as close as 2,500 metres to Iranian troop encampments.

The fortification operation, begun Nov. 23, was reported complete Dec. 25.

Reaffirming Iraq's desire for peace, President Hussein told the nation on Monday that his government was still keen on a policy of good neighbourliness.

"But the Tehran leaders have misjudged our intentions," he said. "They took us for weaklings, when in fact we offered peace from a position of strength and with a sense of responsibility."

He said Iraq's economy has been "constantly deteriorating, because our air force eagles have managed to curtail the ability of the enemy to export oil."

He said that Iraq's key Kharg Island oil shipping terminal in the northeastern sector of the Gulf has been subjected to "relentless air attacks, which resulted in a

sharp reduction in the enemy's oil export capacity."

At "one stage" in the five-year-old war, he said, the Iraqis tried "without success the tactics of limited but concentrated assaults" in the northern sector of the 1,180-kilometre warfront.

"The Iraqis were surprised by our prompt and decisive response," said President Hussein. "Our quick and successive interception attacks pushed the enemy into a state of confusion."

The Iraqi leader expressed gratitude to unspecified Arab states which he said had aided the Iraqi war efforts with volunteers, military supplies and financial assistance.

U.S. to press for joint stand with allies

(Continued from page 1)

Libyan oil. Meanwhile, it was business as usual in Tripoli on Monday with no obvious sign that the two sides were taking seriously reports of possible U.S. military action.

Col. Qadhafi was relaxed and jovial when he spoke to reporters on Sunday in a barley field outside Tripoli and said he had placed his air forces on full alert to confront a possible U.S. attack.

But there were no visible signs of troop movements or other installations in the Tripoli area, a Jordanian diplomat said. He had noticed only a slight increase of movement at Tripoli harbour since the crisis began.

The threat of U.S. retaliation is not being taken seriously, one Western diplomat said. "There is no sign of troops on the street, no panic and no major changes in day-to-day life."

He said the same applied to the estimated 1,500 U.S. citizens residing in Libya who appear to have disregarded President Reagan's directive to leave Libya.

There are no Americans leaving. They are on good money here and there is no evidence that they are at personal risk."

Col. Qadhafi on Sunday referred to U.S. citizens in Libya as guests and said they would come to no harm.

Col. Qadhafi denied he had provided bases for extremist leader Abu Nidal, who is accused of masterminding the attacks, and conceded the airport assaults had harmed the Palestinian cause.

Col. Qadhafi warned of attacks inside the United States if there is any U.S. retaliation against Libya for the attacks in Rome and Vienna.

In the event of a U.S. attack, "We can reach any place, not with aircraft carriers nor with bombers,

but with suicide squads," Col. Qadhafi was quoted as saying. "I meant it when I said that we will operate on the streets of America."

Col. Qadhafi said: "We have gained a lot from these American threats and all the Arabs talk about unity and I made Libya the leader of the resistance against imperialism."

Most Arab governments and the Arab League have condemned reports Washington was considering military options against Libya.

Col. Qadhafi said he had been contacted by a U.S. ambassador who did not say because the United States wanted to ease tension and improve relations.

In his interview on Sunday, Col. Qadhafi also referred to the official Libyan news agency, JANA, reported on Monday.

The reference was in the complete Arabic text of remarks made by Col. Qadhafi on Sunday. This specific reference was not included in a French language text released earlier by JANA.

The Arab text as reported by JANA said:

"Reagan discredited America because he became an Israeli dog, and it is not good for the president of America to become an Israeli dog. What happened at the Rome and Vienna airports is against Israel. Why did the Americans interfere to threaten us?"

"Did Reagan consider himself an Israeli dog? This is not good for the American people and the American president, for Israel has many dogs, lesser than Reagan."

Israeli leaders contended on Monday that Libya had given \$1 billion in oil money to extremist groups and called on Europe to stop buying petroleum from nations that harbour extremists.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak

Shamir, who represent opposing views in Israel's coalition government, joined in criticising Western states that maintain trade and diplomatic ties with Libya.

The call for an economic boycott came after initial threatening statements aimed at Libya that prompted speculation about a military response to the Rome and Vienna attacks.

The Soviet Union was reported on Monday to have co-nuntee itself to the defence of Libya in the event of a sea blockade by the United States.

Citing unidentified Arab diplomatic sources, the independent Kuwaiti newspaper Al Qabas said that Moscow has co-nuntee to Washington its "resolve to support Libya."

It said that the Soviet leadership has told Washington that Soviet merchant ships would continue to sail to Libyan ports with warship escorts in the event of a sea blockade by the United States.

In Moscow, a Soviet government spokesman said that Moscow hoped the United States would not attack Libya but it appeared that Washington wanted to punish the country to demonstrate U.S. military might.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Vladimir Lomeiko told a news conference that U.S. statements of possible military action against Libya were typical of a new U.S. "imperialism."

"We express the hope that there will not be any aggression, although there are very many factors that indicate it is coming to this," Lomeiko said.

Czechoslovak and Polish official newspapers accused Washington of exploiting the attacks in Vienna and Rome as a pretext to assault Libya.

The papers said Washington was using the occasion to stir up further tension in the region.

Crown Prince to patronise seminar on Israeli affairs

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan will patronise a three-day seminar on Israel and the Israeli-U.S. relations which opens at Yarmouk University Liaison Office on Sunday.

At the seminar, organised by the Institute for Hebrew Studies, renowned Arab and American personalities will discuss Israel's national, Arab and international politics; Israel and South Africa; Zionism and Jews; Israel's public opinion vis-a-vis the Palestine question; the future of Israeli-American relations; Israel's economy; and Israel's settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories.

WFP provides continuing aid to Jordan's highlands

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The recently signed agreement between the Ministry of Agriculture and the World Food Programme (WFP) on developing the high regions of Jordan over the coming five years took effect as of Jan. 1, according to a ministry spokesman.

Under the agreement signed last Tuesday, the WFP will partly finance phase four of the project, which is designed to improve and develop 100,000 dunums of high and hilly land owned by small farmers by planting fruit trees.

The 1986-1990 project also entails planting fruit trees on another 100,000 dunums owned by the government.

The project is expected to be completed at a cost of \$52 million, out of which \$17.5 million will be paid by the WFP.

After the agreement was signed by Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakqan and the WFP's representative in Jordan Adnan Raouf, a meeting was held at the ministry during which Mr. Dakqan finalised draft legislation covering phase four of the project.

According to project manager Mr. Ahmad Al Rimawi, the ministry already started receiving applications from local farmers who wish to benefit from the project.

The Ministry of Agriculture, in cooperation with WFP, had earlier completed the third phase of the project to develop high regions in Jordan between 1983 and 1985 at a cost of \$36 million, to which WFP contributed \$13 million.



Behind America's stalling

CONVENTIONAL wisdom among pro-Western Arabs and pro-Arab Westerners has it that the first year of a re-elected U.S. president is the one when it is most realistic to hope for an American peace initiative. That wisdom is based on a number of assumptions:

1. A serious peace initiative, even if objectively in Israel's interest, must involve pressure on Israel to make concessions, which will be resisted.
2. The U.S. has sufficient "leverage" over Israel to overcome such resistance, if it is prepared to apply pressure firmly and single-mindedly.
3. Key Arab parties, including the PLO, will be willing to recognise Israel and enter negotiations with it once it is clear that America is determined to obtain the necessary concessions from it.
4. America's national interest, clearly understood by all U.S. diplomats, and by every U.S. president once he has been in office for a few months, is to pursue a peace process of this type.
5. The main factor inhibiting successive administrations from taking their course is Israeli influence within the U.S. political system.
6. That influence depends on ignorance of the realities of the Middle East, which is greater among ordinary voters than it is among politicians who hold or have held office. Therefore it is strongest in the run-up to an election and weakest when the next election is far off, especially when the president himself cannot expect to be re-elected in any case.

Opportunities to test the hypothesis are rare, because since Israel came into existence (and since the constitutional amendment barring a third consecutive presidential term came into force) only three presidents have won a second term in their own right and thereby became non-releivable: Eisenhower, Nixon and Reagan. Eisenhower, whose record is often adduced in support of assumption (2), did indeed show great firmness in dealing with Israel, but no less so in his first term than in his second, and most spectacularly in the very week before his re-election.

Nixon (1971) show a more active, and more balanced, interest in the Middle East in the first year of his second term. It was this fact that gave rise to the conventional wisdom, and constitutes the only verification of it to date. In retrospect, however, the change in American policy in 1973 seems to have had less to do with the American political cycle than with objective factors affecting U.S. interests. America had for the first time become significantly dependent on Arab oil. King Faisal himself publicly served notice (after innumerable private warnings) that the Arabs would be forced to exploit this fact if America did not take steps to end the Israeli occupation of Arab land. At the same time the U.S. had quit Indochina and improved relations with China and the USSR, leaving it free to take a more active role in the Middle East.

These are sufficient explanations for the more sympathetic statements about Arab grievances which Nixon and Kissinger began to make in the summer and fall of 1973. It took the October war with the OPEC production cuts, leading to the OPEC price hike, to propel them into positive action: then, not only was the American economy suffering direct damage, but also Israel's survival had been assured only by an emergency U.S. airlift, and the war had triggered a superpower confrontation in the Middle East. These were optimum conditions for the exercise of U.S. leverage over Israel, and had nothing to do with the U.S. electoral calendar.

What the conventional wisdom fails to take into account is that a great power's foreign policy — especially if it is a democracy — is influenced much more by the perceived urgency of a regional problem than by long-term calculations of national interest which are at best uncertain. The Middle East was forced on America's attention in 1973, and Nixon and Kissinger then tried to deal with it in the context of their main global design, which was détente. Generally an administration can have a long-term policy of historic pretensions on only one issue at a time. The Middle East was lucky (or unlucky) to be chosen for that role by Jimmy Carter. For Reagan the role is taken by the effort to restore American strategic superiority, and specifically by the Strategic Defence Initiative. The Middle East was forced on Reagan's attention only briefly, in 1982, by Israel's own goal in Lebanon. Arab disunity and the state of the oil market have made it easy for him to ignore the region in the first year of his second term, and there is no sign that that is about to change — Middle East International.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Arab unity worries Israel

FORMER ISRAELI army chief of staff Raphael Eitan has expressed concern over Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement and said that it indicates danger for the Zionist state. This statement does not only reflect concern and worry in Israel, but also a Zionist lust for maintaining hegemony over a weak and divided Arab nation. Israel is keen on adopting all possible measures for keeping the Arabs divided and weak, and incapable of defending their rights or protecting their own interests. Therefore, any rapprochement among Arab states is feared by Tel Aviv because it is bound to bolster Arab defenses in the face of Israeli threats. Building a strong Arab entity socially, culturally and economically is bound to form a strong and solid wall in the face of Israel's expansionist designs, and thwart its attempts to dominate the Arab region. It is only logical for the Arabs to resort to strengthening their defenses and uniting their ranks since it is the only way for confronting the common enemy's plots.

Al Dustour: Putting an end to the Gulf war

ISLAMIC FOREIGN ministers open a meeting in Rabat Monday to discuss the Gulf war among other important things. In fact this conflict has constituted a challenge to the Islamic world whose mediation over the past five years to end the war has resulted in failure. Therefore, we expect this issue to dominate the five-day meeting which is regarded as a forum for finding solutions for issues irking the Arab and Islamic worlds. We do not minimise the other issues on the agenda, which are of concern to Arabs and Muslims everywhere, but we consider the Gulf war as a major problem requiring priority over others because this war has continuously contributed to a weakening of the Arab and Islamic states and has been adversely affecting their interests. Stopping this war means an end to the sapping of Arab and Islamic power and resources and a beginning of constructive steps for solving the other important issues like the Israeli occupation of Arab and holy places in Palestine.

Sawt Al Shaub: New Lebanese era

FOLLOWING VISITS to Damascus by Lebanese President Gemayel and former president Frangieh a new hope has emerged for ending the civil war in Lebanon. The agreement reached in Damascus demonstrates the fact that a solution for Arab problems can come from the Arabs themselves if they are sincere in their intentions and objectives. All the other European and international initiatives have failed because they did not aim at finding a permanent solution for the Lebanese problem and were not acceptable by the warring groups in Lebanon. The Lebanese have discovered that they possess the will and the means of reaching solutions for their problems. They first realised this fact when they offered sacrifice and martyrs who fell to rid the country from Israeli occupation and foreign presence in their country.

Palestinians and the challenge of non-violent struggle

By Frank Collins

Non-violent struggle in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has become relevant because it offers to the Palestinians easily seen advantages over continuing violence. Armed action at this point is counter-productive because it undermines the chief thesis being advanced by the Palestinians — that they are prepared to live in peace side-by-side with Israel in a new state of Palestine.

Some Palestinians are beginning to perceive that exclusive reliance on non-violence could be advantageous to them; the concept has even begun to attract the interest and support of some PLO leaders both in the Arafat wing and in the dissident factions based in Damascus. However, official statements and actions are continuing to stress armed struggle, and in the organisation's current debilitated and divided state any move toward non-violence would face formidable obstacles. Yet the idea that Palestinians should resort to tactical non-violence in their struggle with Israel makes sense. It would electrify the world and make a shambles of the Israeli proposition that the Palestinians

are mere terrorists, without a legitimate national cause, and that the PLO ought to be eliminated.

The difficulties attending a purely diplomatic approach are underlined by the fact that every assessment of public opinion in Israel indicates that there is no consensus for yielding even one square centimetre of the territory of the West Bank and Gaza. Thus, except for public relations purposes, Israel has no motive to engage in real negotiations which would expose Israel's complete intransigence. The current international dialogue leads one to conclude that the Israelis are interested only in peace negotiations from which the PLO would be excluded so that there would be a Palestinian capitulation on the issue of the West Bank and Gaza.

If a truly durable settlement is to be arrived at, the agreement must not be a surrender but should reflect a compromise between the interests of both parties. However, only a surrender is likely with the existing balance of forces — military, political, social and economic. These must be shifted in a way that is more consistent with the justice of the Palestinian cause, if any compromise is to be

reached.

How then could a strategy of non-violence bring about any meaningful shift in the balance of forces? The answer certainly does not lie in the exclusive reliance on diplomacy, with the Palestinian people remaining passive. Rather it calls for a massive renewal of the struggle in the occupied territories. If this is attempted by escalated violence, it would play into Israeli hands, giving them additional ammunition to brand the PLO as simply a terrorist organisation. Instead, by complete reliance on non-violence, the struggle can be recast into a radically different form. This would mean continuing with the already tested forms of non-violent resistance, supplemented by new and imaginative non-violent techniques, and the halting of all operations designed to inflict death and injury. Popular resistance would have to rise to new heights to make the territories virtually ungovernable by the occupation authorities in order to swing the balance of forces significantly towards the Palestinian side.

Non-violent struggle under these conditions would still be

war. Non-violence does not mean passivity but a struggle by all methods, excluding bodily harm. Understandably, people in any resistance movement feel more secure fighting with weapons in their hands, but this is exactly the kind of resistance that the Israeli forces are prepared to fight. They are not prepared to deal with the international repercussions of a Palestinian recourse to non-violent methods of struggle where all the violence would come from the Israeli side.

The costs of non-violent struggle are likely to be high in terms of lives lost and of people languishing in prisons. As Dr. Mubarak Awad, director of the Palestinian Centre for the study of non-violence in Jerusalem, has pointed out:

First, non-violent struggle is a total and serious struggle, nothing short of real war. There is no assurance that the enemy will be non-violent. On the contrary, there are great sacrifices that we should expect in the non-violent struggle. Martyrs and wounded will fall, and Palestinians will suffer personal losses in terms of their interests, jobs and possessions.

For non-violent struggle to succeed, the cause must be just. Its whole rationale is to gain public sympathy and support by demonstrating total commitment to the cause, bravely withstanding the worst that the enemy can inflict, as did Gandhi's followers in his well-known Salt March. Doubts about the legitimacy and justice of the cause can quickly erode the public support that the non-violent demonstrators are seeking.

The use of violence and terrorism by the PLO arose out of the hatred generated by the terrorist activities of the Israelis in 1948 which resulted in nearly 900,000 Palestinians being driven out of that part of Palestine that became Israel. (The improbable story that the Palestinians left their homes and possessions in 1948 under orders from Arab leaders has been pretty well debunked by this time, although some Americans still seem to believe it.) Many more were driven from their homes in the West Bank and Gaza in 1967, providing more fuel for the violence of the newly formed PLO.

Weighing against the adoption of a non-violence strategy by the

PLO is the implementation of the new "iron fist" policy by Israel in the West Bank and Gaza in the past few months. Reservists in the occupation forces are being replaced by career army personnel who are imposing southern Lebanon-style repression, mass physical mistreatment and humiliation. Predictably, the Palestinians are responding with growing violence.

One leading PLO official has said that while non-violent struggle might be the correct path to follow, he hoped that the difficulties of putting it into practice were appreciated. This indeed is the supreme challenge: to turn growing violence into a campaign of non-violent struggle. If the Palestinians have the sense and genius to do just this, they would not only win the plaudits of most of the world but almost certainly speed the winning of their cause — self-determination and a Palestinian state — Middle East International.

Frank Collins is a freelance writer based in Washington, D.C., who has a special interest in the Middle East.

There is no way around the PLO

By Maher Abukhatir

One thing Israel, the United States and Western Europe seem unable to understand regarding the Middle East conflict is that the PLO is an integral part of the Palestinian people. Israel and the U.S., and to a certain extent Western Europe, are currently leading a campaign to discredit the PLO, hoping to undermine its role in determining the future of the Palestinian people. At the same time, both governments are vigorously talking about "Palestinian" participation in possible future talks. The "Palestinians" these two countries are talking about are West Bank and Gaza Palestinians they will approve of.

While the West Bank and Gaza Palestinians have the right to be involved in any peace talks, they nevertheless remain only one-fourth of the total Palestinian population. The other three-fourths live in the diaspora. For this reason, a negotiating Arab team including Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza only cannot be truly representative of the Palestinian people.

This, however, is not the issue. What governments opposed to PLO participation in peace talks should know is that no sound person in the Israeli-occupied West Bank or Gaza will be taking part in any talks that the PLO leadership does not approve of. This is not because the PLO "intimidates" people here, as Israeli propagandists claim; it simply means that the PLO is recognised by a very large percentage of the Palestinian people as their representative and the only party entitled to make decisions on their behalf. The PLO, in all its institutions, is the only independent and organised body through which the Palestinians can transmit their thoughts, dreams and aspirations. As any legitimate government, the PLO survives as long as the Palestinians masses wish it to. This privilege was granted to the PLO years ago, making it one of the most popular revolutionary movements in the world.

The legitimacy and popularity of the PLO has been proven more than once. The simple fact that the PLO's popular base is stronger in the refugee camps gives it the legitimacy it requires considering that the camps house close to two million refugees. The PLO's military force has come mainly from the refugee camps and their bases built in the camps outside the occupied territories.

Further proof can be seen in past Israeli attempts to create an organised West Bank and Gaza group capable of speaking on behalf of the Palestinian people. One such group was the so-called "Village League", which it was intended should form its power base in the villages where more than 60 per cent of the Palestinians live or hail from. This experiment, which was initiated in the early 1980s, proved to be a major failure in Israeli policy in the occupied territories. No decent Palestinian joined the League or even wanted his name associated with it. Most of those who joined it were losers and castouts, criminals and scoundrels. The rest of the Palestinian population strongly opposed it and expressed their unyielding support for the PLO.

When Palestinians in the occupied territories were given the rare opportunity to cast a vote in mayoral races in 1976, blocs which ran on tickets openly supporting the PLO political line won an overwhelming majority. The only way Israel was able to undo the PLO's victory was to dismiss the mayors in 1982 and to ban any further elections in the West Bank. Israel's ban on new elections was a result of clear worry that its contention that West Bank and Gaza Palestinians do not support the PLO would be a proven fallacy.

The Palestinians in the occupied territories and the diaspora have sacrificed a great deal to get the PLO to its present level. Many have spent years in prison or lost a loved one in the long fight to preserve the PLO as the Palestinians' only representative. Even the internal disagreements between Palestinian factions were the result of deep concern over the future role of the PLO. These disagreements, which at times reached the point of armed clashes, were not waged to destroy the PLO but to make sure that it would continue to function in the interest of the Palestinian masses.

The West Bank and Gaza have credible Palestinians who can act on behalf of the people. And Israel, the U.S. and other governments may agree to these Palestinians as members of a joint Arab or Palestinian-Jordanian team taking part in peace negotiations. But one thing is certain and that is unless the PLO gives the green light to these people to play such a role they will never do so. The reason is simple: these people will need the backing of an established body if they are to carry any weight in the negotiations. And that established body cannot be other than the PLO.

Experience has taught the Palestinians that Israel will employ all its skills to gain as much as possible from negotiations, while forcing the other parties to concede on every point. Only the PLO can act on an equal footing with the Israeli team if the negotiations are to be balanced. — Middle East International.

OIC ministers meet in Fez

(Continued from page 1)

membership, the sources said. They added that Asian delegations would try to persuade the foreign ministers to adopt an even-handed approach towards the Gulf war and "avoid pushing Iran into a corner" where it would be forced to be intransigent.

They said mediation efforts so far had failed mainly because they were perceived by Tehran as weighted in favour of Iraq, which is supported by most Arab members of the OIC.

The conference is expected to endorse a joint Islamic stand in support of Libya, conference sources quoted by the AP said.

Libya, which received solid backing from the Arab League Saturday, plans to seek further support from the entire Islamic community here.

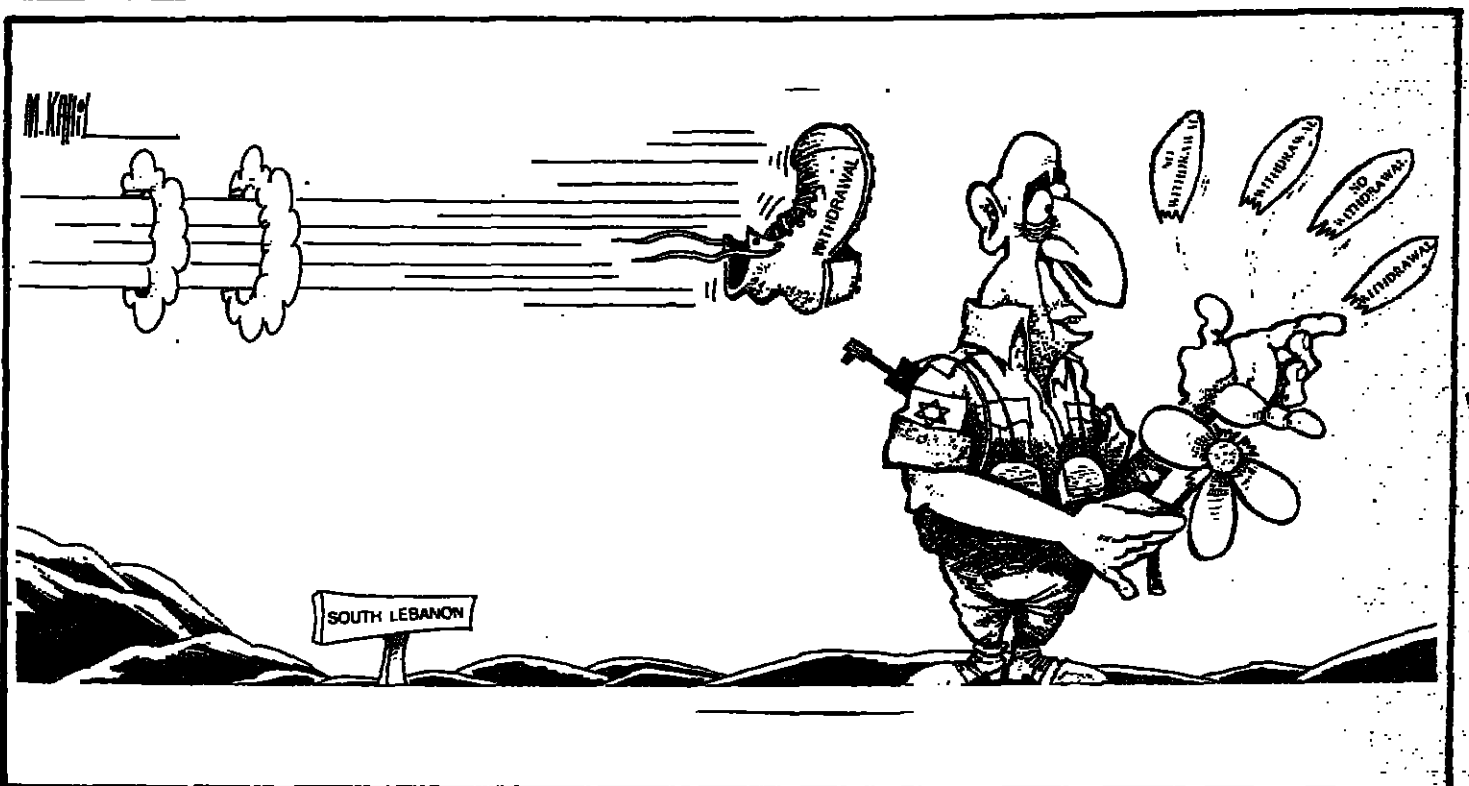
The United States and Israel have accused the Libyans of backing the gunmen who staged attacks at the Rome and Vienna airports on Dec. 27 leaving 19 dead and about 120 wounded.

The Arab League reiterated its condemnation of all terrorism and threw its support behind Tripoli in the case of any outside aggression.

Other conflicts on the menu for the ministers here include Afghanistan. The Afghan resistance movement is seeking the OIC seat left vacant when the organisation excluded the Kabul government after the 1979 Soviet intervention.

The conference also will discuss the situation in the Middle East and the Palestinian problem.

Egypt was suspended from the OIC in 1979 when it established relations with Israel, but was readmitted two years ago.



Hart set for presidential bid, burdened by frontrunner tag

By Michael Gelb
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Senator Gary Hart's decision to give up his Colorado seat in Senate when his term expires next January spares him a tough reelection fight this year and allows him to focus on an expected presidential bid in 1988.

"As I forge some role to help move our party and our country into the future, I won't be coy about my plan," said Hart, who narrowly missed the Democratic nomination in 1984.

"Does that mean I still have an interest in being president?" yes," Hart, who is widely seen as the frontrunner for the party nomination in 1988, told supporters and reporters this week.

While some analysts say leaving the Senate could cost Hart news coverage and open him to charges of ducking the judgement of Colorado voters, most think Hart probably made a good decision.

"An argument for staying in the Senate is it's easier to get your message across," Hart aide Kevin Sweeney says.

But Sweeney and others believe Hart, aged 49, should have no

problem winning press coverage once he leaves the Senate.

"Hart is a person enough in himself to generate media attention," political strategist David Spear said.

Hart's bid for the White House should benefit greatly from the freedom gained by leaving the Senate, said Spear, an aide to former Senator Howard Baker.

"You have to be unemployed (to run successfully)... you cannot be an effective senator and run for president," Spear told Reuters.

Baker is tipped as a candidate for the 1988 Republican presidential nomination after an unsuccessful bid in 1980.

Spear noted Baker had been confined to campaigning at weekends in 1980 by the demands of his Senate job while President Ronald Reagan and Vice-President George Bush, free of public office at the time, devoted their full energies to the race.

Hart's decision not to seek a third six-year Senate term has other important short-term advantages.

Bowing out of a Senate race likely to cost well over \$1 million makes good financial sense for

Hart, who still owes \$3.5 million from his 1984 presidential bid.

In addition, his reelection to the Senate was not a certainty. Hart barely survived a 1980 challenge and Republicans predicted he would have been beaten next November.

A defeat would almost certainly have doomed his White House hopes and a narrow win would have dimmed his national appeal. "It's a disadvantage to get bloodied up in your own state," Spear said.

But Hart's greatest burden may be the frontrunner mantle he assumed when Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy decided last month not to seek the presidency in 1988.

Lee Atwater, an adviser to Bush, who is expected to bid to succeed Reagan, says the frontrunner position is fraught with pitfalls because "there's a whole pack chasing you."

"While being on top makes it easier to raise money and command media coverage, it also makes you a target for criticism from all the other candidates. In addition, narrow victories in

the round of state primaries or caucuses — which determine the leading contenders for each party's nomination — are often seen as defeats.

"You are subjected to intense scrutiny and you have to be at the top of your game day in and day out. You have nothing to gain and everything to lose," Spear said.

The political map is littered with failed frontrunners. Kennedy was trounced in 1980 despite opinion polls showing he could easily wrest the Democratic nomination from President Jimmy Carter.

Hart himself came close to toppling the 1984 Democratic frontrunner, Walter Mondale, partly because the Coloradoan did better than expected in early caucuses.

Ironically, the withdrawal of Kennedy and Mondale's political retirement have transformed Hart from an outsider to being the "old face" among likely Democratic candidates in 1988.

In 1984 he ran as the "new ideas" candidate but in 1988 Hart will be among the oldest Democratic hopefuls. A key task will be to keep his appeal fresh over three years as a frontrunner.

Spectres of violent past still haunt Alfonsin's democracy

By John Reichertz
Reuter

BUENOS AIRES — The spectres of dictatorship, violence and chronic inflation still haunt President Raul Alfonsin in his two-year crusade to found a modern democracy in Argentina.

There has been dramatic progress since December 1983, when Alfonsin took power after eight years of military rule had left the nation verging on political and economic chaos.

Despite this, Alfonsin recently expressed fears that democracy had not been fully consolidated, and he has called for a pact with other political forces based on shared ideals to assure social justice and economic advancement.

But the call, which proposed among its measures the participation of other parties in Alfonsin's government, has met a lukewarm response.

Italo Luder, the opposition Peronist presidential candidate in the 1983 elections, called the measures a "list of good intentions

that we have no problem supporting if the government intends to back it with coherent plan of action."

So far, Alfonsin has managed to stay a step ahead of detractors, carrying out fundamental political reforms.

Military leaders have been tried for human rights violations, and former President Jorge Videla and retired Admiral Emilio Massera face life imprisonment.

Inflation has been slashed, running at less than 50 per cent a year, against more than 1,100 per cent six months ago.

The first mid-term elections in 20 years handed the government a solid victory, but also helped the opposition Peronist party to begin a purge of unpopular party chiefs.

Alfonsin took a decisive stance to forestall any attack on his government by ordering a state of siege before the election in response to a wave of bombings. He said sympathisers of previous military regimes were bent on overturning the government.

Many leading politicians saw the sentences handed down against

inst Videla, Massera and three other former military leaders as unprecedented steps toward consolidating democracy.

It was the first time military leaders in Latin America, a region plagued by military coups, had been brought to justice for their actions.

Four other former military junta members were acquitted by judges of the federal appeals court.

Argentina's volatile economy has been another problematic area for previous governments. Under Alfonsin, it has already cost one economy minister his job.

Fearing an impending electoral disaster, Alfonsin shifted course at mid-year with a full-out attack on inflation and steps to bring Argentina up to date on payment of its \$50 billion foreign debt.

The strategy has cut the fiscal deficit from 10 per cent to five per cent in the second half of the year, seen over \$3 billion in interest arrears paid up and rescheduled over \$10 billion in overdue capital payments.

In 1986, however, the government faces the challenge of sparking growth and also finding at least \$4 billion in fresh funds to service the foreign debt.

Buenos Aires this year opened two new fronts in its diplomatic battle with Britain over the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands, the South Atlantic archipelago that Argentina claims and which was the site of the 1982 war Britain won over an Argentine invasion force.

At the United Nations, a resolution backed by Argentina, calling for negotiations between London and Buenos Aires on all aspects of the conflict, was carried by 107 votes to four with 44 abstentions.

The resolution, which won support from France, Greece and Italy, dropped any reference to the issue of sovereignty.

Alfonsin also met British opposition politicians and said that meeting the Liberal Party's David Steel that it was a step forward in efforts for all-mechanising negotiations on restoring relations with Britain.

British aid: Helping those who can help themselves

British aid is helping to sell fertilizer and improve the lot of the poor, but the poor are not getting the most out of it. The Indian authorities have already approached the British government to extend funding for another five years.

A British aid official who was critical of IBFEP commented: "The tenant farmers simply do not have the time or incentive to produce more."

Many observers are asking whether the type of development encouraged by the programme is desirable. A member of a community-based development research group in Delhi sums up the concerns: "The new technology is systematically destroying local seed varieties and proven traditional practices. It is creating a dependency on external high cost inputs, setting up a vicious circle which leads to greater landlessness and impoverishment."

The official view is that "is the most successful of Indo-British aid projects" and indications are that it will be extended for another five years. This much is clear: despite the project's claims, it is the larger, richer farmers and companies selling agricultural inputs who will continue to reap the benefit — at the expense of the poor — Earthscan feature.

ash's sentiments: "Much depends upon local conditions, but generally, poor farmers are not in a position to gain from the new technology."

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Beef in the heart of Texas

Texas cattlemen are concerned about the fall-off in red meat consumption as national consumption patterns in the U.S. change. Many bring reports on the harsh realities facing today's cowboys.

DALLAS — For generations Texans have raised beef and have taken it with them, bagged, bagged or frozen. Like the Texas cowboy, the beef is the typical Texas steak is twice as big as anyone else's, having just enough room on the plate for a spoonful of hash-browns.

In the U.S. league table Texas in 1984 had the most cattle operations (152,000), the most farm and ranch land (136.8 million acres), the highest number of cattle and calves (14.1 million — valued at \$4.724 billion) and the most cattle slaughtered (6.767 million).

Feedlots, where weaned calves are fattened for market — are mainly concentrated in the Texas Panhandle, a grain-growing area bordering Oklahoma and New Mexico, with a good highway system and a relatively temperate climate. Feedlot owners sell cattle almost daily and are far more sophisticated in marketing techniques than the average rancher who sells only in spring and autumn. Because this is where the action is, many of the leading buyers from Chicago and the mid-West have relocated to the Panhandle.

Now the health lobby has got the Texas cattlemen worried: not so much over their own cholesterol intake as over the effect the anti-red meat publicity is having on national consumption patterns.

Since 1980, diet-conscious Americans have been eating more poultry meats and less beef. Not a lot less (72-74 lbs against 76-78 lbs retail weight, each year per head of population) but enough to create an over-supply and depress prices. Producers are losing money at both the cow-calf and the feedlot level.

Exports will not be a compensatory factor until foreign buyers appreciate the distinction between grain-fed American beef and cheaper grass-fed meat from Australia and Argentina. Although the value of beef carcasses rose from \$392 million to \$470 million last year (with 70 per cent going to Japan), this represented only 1.3 per cent of total production.

The fall-off in consumer demand and calls for concerted action, according to Mr. Dolph Briscoe of Uvalde, Texas, Mr. Briscoe, an ex-state governor and a major landowner, strongly supports the 1985 Farm Bill's proposed mandatory \$1 per head levy on both home-produced cattle and imported beef to be used for pro-

cessary to produce more. In any case, they would be unable to get a loan, since their landless status provides them with no collateral. At the end of this year, the project will have run its five-year course. The Indian authorities have already approached the British government to extend funding for another five years.

The Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation claims that yields in demonstration areas have increased dramatically, in some cases by as much as 79 per cent. But one British advisor to the project maintained that, though one would expect high yields given the supply of inputs, the figures are exaggerated.

Whatever the precise yield figures, there is no doubt that a healthy economic surplus is being generated and to some extent sustained. An evaluation study carried out by the Indian National Council of Applied Economic Research reported: "Yields, fertilizer use, the area under HYVs and cost-benefit ratios have increased considerably."

What is in doubt is the value of the programme for the poorest farmers. At the office of the Department of Agriculture in Bankura, an official concurs with Sab-



A ploughing scene in Uttar Pradesh, India (Earthscan Photo)

on loans it just wouldn't go." Mr. Nance has studied animal husbandry in college and has spent a lifetime with cattle. He employs just four people to run two ranches in Texas and one in Oklahoma, with a total of 800 more cows (making 1,500-1,600 cattle on hand). Neighbours help each other in roundups and branding, and the working day is 14-18 hours long.

In the brush and (prickly) pear country around San Antonio landowners can earn almost as much from selling licences to hunt wild turkey, quail and white-tailed deer as from running cattle. Others get additional income from recreational facilities (the "dude" ranch), fishing lodges, or from raising zoo animals, sheep or mohair goats.

In a discussion paper published by TAES on alternative programmes for rebuilding beef cattle herds after the worst drought in three decades, agricultural economists say the U.S. already has 5-8 million more head of cattle than it needs to supply the available market. They suggest that instead of restocking, some ranchers would be better off liquidating their assets and putting cash in the bank.

In Texas, this would seem to apply particularly to nearly 109,000 ranch operations (71.7 per cent of the total) which run fewer than 50 head of cattle and are by definition uneconomic. Mr. Steve Wheelock, a Dallas County agent with TAES, is one of those who recognise that "when your expenses are more than your income it's time to quit."

Regrettably, since he was raised on a farm and still comes to the office at four in the morning, he has sold his cattle and leased his land. And he will not be going back to it when he retires.

But for the majority — in urban occupations as doctors, lawyers, bankers or civil servants — ranching is not a business, but an appealing life-style... part of that mystique of Texas which sent crowds flocking to a "Pioneer Days" celebration in Fort Worth in September, and makes city boys buy expensive western boots in order to drive a souped-up pickup truck. "We all like to pretend we're cowboys," admits TSCRA's Mr. Steve Munday.

This is fine for those who can afford it. A hobby ranch may also have some tax-shelter advantages. At the same time, a commercial rancher points out, the amateur cowboys with their 2 million head of cattle are spoiling the market for those whose livelihood depends on it — Financial Times Feature.

Edmond Halley has enduring place in scientific hall of fame

By Stephen Powell

LONDON — More than 200 years after his death, the genius of Edmond Halley is again being acclaimed — while the comet which bears his name hurtles through our skies.

Halley, who tracked the orbit of the comet now visible from earth on its first visit since 1910, had a career as brilliant as the celestial traveller itself. But he died before he could see his prediction of its return in 1758 come true.

"I think Halley was the second greatest scientist, after Sir Isaac Newton, that this country has ever bred," said British astronomer David Hughes.

Halley's versatility was extraordinary. He is best known for his work as an astronomer, but as well as solving a riddle of the heavens, he also plumbed the depths of the seas, inventing the first practical diving bell.

"He was the epitome of the scientific generalist, a man fascinated by life who couldn't leave things alone," said Hughes, an expert on Halley.

Among Halley's other achievements, he published the first chart of the southern skies, based on observations he made as a young man on the Atlantic island

of Saint Helena.

He was the first to realise that the stars moved and he produced the earliest weather map.

His work on comets was a huge undertaking, involving detailed calculations of the orbits of 24 comets that had reached the inner solar system between 1337 and 1698.

For thousands of years before Halley, comets had been solely the preserve of seers and holy men. He beat them at their own game, with a stunning prophecy which made his name.

Using Newton's laws of the universe, he calculated that the comets seen in 1531, 1607 and 1682 were one and the same. He predicted the comet would return in 1758. It did, and the world gave it his name.

This year, it is back again, though not yet a brilliant spectacle in the skies. Last month, it came close to earth as it sped towards the sun.

It will be even closer in March and April after going round the sun and should come within 63 million km of earth before heading out again towards the edge of the solar system. The best views will be from the southern hemisphere.

Halley, who lived from 1656 to

1742, was overshadowed by his illustrious contemporary Newton, whose theory of gravitation showed that the universe was governed by simple mathematical laws.

Of Halley, Hughes said: "He was a great astronomer and a great physicist. He was also the father of geomagnetism (study of the earth's magnetic field). The advances he made in this outshine the field for the next 150 years."

He produced more than 100 papers, ranging from "A discourse tending to prove at what time and place Julius Caesar made his first descent upon Britain" to "A method of walking underwater."

When he developed a diving bell, he went underwater in it himself and later set up a successful salvage company.

He led the first marine scientific expedition to be commanded by a British monarch, sailing from Brazil to Newfoundland to chart the difference between magnetic north and true north.

When Tsar Peter the Great of Russia came to England to study shipbuilding, it was the energetic and amiable Halley who became his scientific adviser and drinking companion.

One contemporary, but disputed, account depicts Halley

pushing the Tsar in a wheelbarrow through the streets of Deptford in London when both were the worse for drink.

Halley lived through a momentous period of modern science and played a leading role in disseminating its discoveries — he paid the costs of publishing Newton's book on gravitation, regarded as the most important scientific work ever written.

Halley worked as the first full-time secretary of the Royal Society, a British club which became the world's central clearinghouse for scientific information.

The society could not pay him a salary, but gave him instead several copies of a book called "History of Fish."

In 1720 Halley became Astronomer Royal, chief astronomical adviser to the King. He immediately ran into money problems when he found that his predecessor's widow had taken all the telescopes from the Royal Observatory.

Halley then carved himself yet another niche in scientific history by persuading the British government to part with money (500 pounds sterling) for the purchase of scientific instruments — an unprecedented achievement, according to Hughes.

Geldof's Band Aid grows to charity empire

By Annika Does

LONDON — In the year since he made his first impassioned plea to feed the world, Bob Geldof has created what amounts to a charity empire for starving Africans.

What started as the Irish rock singer's spontaneous response to television pictures of African drought victims has grown into one of Britain's biggest international relief organisations, continuously expanding into new areas of fund-raising.

Equally important, relief officials say, are the wider effects of Geldof's crusade. Attitudes to giving and to Geldof's own profession — not traditionally associated with charity work — may never be the same.

Band Aid, founded when Geldof assembled the cream of his colleagues for the hit record "Do They Know It's Christmas?" one year ago, says it has raised more than \$85 million to date, excluding proceeds from new appeals this Christmas.

By comparison Oxfam, one of Britain's largest Third World relief groups, reported a record income of \$73 million in the year of the African drought. Its officials say donations rose rather than dropped in Band Aid's wake.

Band Aid says 40 per cent of its money has been spent on food,

medicine, shelter and transport to and within the African famine areas. The charity owns three ships.

The other 60 per cent, it says, has been put aside for long-term relief projects aimed at preventing another famine as severe as that of the past year.

"Emaciated children appeal to our guilt and pity," Geldof said in Ethiopia in October. "It's more difficult to get people to give for schemes to improve sanitation or crop production."

Geldof has haggled with officials, pleaded with television audiences, travelled tens of thousands of kilometres and enlisted celebrities from all walks of life to keep money flowing in.

Most still see his crowning achievement as the 12-hour Live Aid concert staged simultaneously in London and Philadelphia in July, when he persuaded the top names of rock music — some of whom had not played together for years — to perform unpaid.

The event, billed as the world's biggest rock extravaganza and featuring names such as Paul McCartney, Bob Dylan, and the Who, reunited especially for the occasion, prompted a host of fund-raising activities in other professions.

Fashion aid saw designers such as Yves Saint-Laurent, Armani and Calvin Klein showing their

creations under one roof for the first time. Artists sold paintings under the banner Visual Aid.

Shopkeepers in London's Oxford Street used their traditional Christmas illuminations to urge donations, displaying collection boxes marked "Lights Aid" on their cash registers.

Opera stars gave their own version of live aid in Verona's Roman arena. And a firm of merchant bankers launched "Bond Aid", pledging a share of its commissions to famine relief.

Charities working for other causes say their donations have risen too in Band Aid's wake. "It has fired the charity network wider," a spokesman for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children said recently.

"As a relief agency Band Aid has gained a tremendous amount of credibility in a short time," said Oxfam spokesman Derek Warren. "But above all it has raised the consciousness of a huge sector of people and reached a whole new constituency."

Or, in the words of Geldof, lead singer of the Boomtown Rats Punk group: Band Aid has made famine relief "hip".

Geldof's blunt language and stubborn efforts to cut through red tape are an important part of Band Aid's appeal.

"What this place needs is a laxative," he told members of the

European Parliament in October, urging the European Community to use its food mountains for famine relief.

During a tour of Ethiopia and five other famine-stricken African nations earlier this month, he was reported to have told one government official to "cut the formal crap" and get down to a practical discussion on food distribution.

Band Aid also signalled a change in the public image of rock stars, traditionally portrayed in the press as jetsetting pleasure-seekers.

It spawned action by the entertainment world for other causes, such as Artists United Against Apartheid, Farm aid on behalf of farmers in the American midwest and AIDS aid.

Pete Townshend, leader of the Who and one of rock's most vociferous rebels in the 1960s, now says he devotes a third of his time to charity work.

"Rock has made amends: it has discovered its conscience with a vengeance," said the London Times in a recent article.

Geldof, 34, has recently started recording with the Boomtown Rats again and says he will cut down his work for Band Aid next year: "For one thing, I can't support myself full-time on it any longer."

But he will still devote two days per week to the trust.

Australian bicentennial sail retraces route of convict settlers

By Richard Bill

SYDNEY, Australia — The first English convicts sent to help settle the new British colony of Australia traveled free. Two hundred years later, there's a \$1,500-dollar price tag for people who want to retrace the historic voyage on sailing ships.

Organisers say the would-be adventurers are jumping at the chance of a berth on 11 "square-rigged" ships that will spend eight months tracing the route of the "first fleet" that brought 1,350 convicts and settlers from England in 1788.

The project, in the planning stages for a decade and costing \$7.5 million, is the centre piece of Australia's 1988 bicentennial celebrations and the brainchild of Jonathan King, a Melbourne University historian who wanted to remind Australians of their heritage.

"After making three trips around the world and literally searching the seven seas, we have finally found 11 ships that are traditional square-riggers of 18th-century style," said King, whose great-great-grandfather Philip King was an officer on one of the ships.

Leaving Portsmouth, England, on May 13, 1987, exactly 200 years to the day, the ships will voyage about 12,000 miles on to reach Botany Bay, near Sydney on Australia's east coast.

After stops at Tenerife, Canary Islands; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Cape Town, South Africa; Mauritius in the Indian Ocean, and Fremantle in Western Australia, the ships will sail into Sydney harbor on Australia Day, Jan. 26,

1988. For those who cannot make the entire trip, organisers are booking passage for individual legs of the voyage, ranging from \$1,320 for the London-Portsmouth run to \$7,280 for the 53-day journey from Tenerife to Rio de Janeiro.

The full \$1,500-dollar fare includes the boat trip from London to Sydney, and return air fare, economy class.

"People are paying for an adventure that their ancestors probably would have been glad to have paid not to go," said Gordon Price of Australian Himalayan expeditions which is selling tickets.

Passengers are told not to expect luxury cabins or comforts that would be found on modern-day cruise liners. The passengers must be fit and ready to work.

"It really is an adventure travel package," King said in an interview. "You've got to be a bit of a cavalier. You've got to be able to stand up on the deck in a storm, go aloft to pull in the sails and man the helm."

Each passenger will sign a contract stating the terms of their "work passage," said King. "This is the adventure of a lifetime. It's a magical mystery tour that will never be repeated. People are buying the chance to go back 200 years."

Passengers will sleep in hammocks or on deck in close quarters. The fare includes three meals a day, but there will be no salt beef or maggots in the biscuits, as was the case 200 years ago. There will be plenty of orange juice to reduce the risk of scurvy and, perhaps, a tot (a small drink of liquor) before departure.

Japanese soldier, 30 years in jungle, praises natural life

By Richard Waddington

CAMPO GRANDE, Brazil — Thirty years dodging soldiers in the jungle may not be everyone's idea of the way to health and happiness, but Lieutenant Hiroo Onoda, late of the Japanese Imperial army, believes it taught him a thing or two.

Onoda walked out of the jungle on the Philippine island of Lubang in March 1974 to become the last Japanese soldier to lay down his sword from World War Two, nearly 29 years after the conflict ended with the U.S. dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Now 63 years old and as fighting-fit as in his jungle days, Onoda owns a cattle farm in the western Brazilian state of Mato Grosso do Sul and spends six months in Japan each year lecturing schoolchildren on health and nature.

He is also writing a book on his ideas which includes advice to mothers to allow their children more contact with the soil and dirt — even in the rain.

"Too much concrete and cleanliness makes for weak children," he told Reuters in an interview.

Onoda said he only once suffered a slight fever during his years on the run and has not known a day of illness since.

"Knowing I could never have any medicines or seek a doctor's help made me strong and self-reliant. I was pushed to the limits of human endurance and now I want to use what I learnt to help others," he said.

Onoda arrived in the Philippines in December 1944 with 250 men under his command. By the time the war ended eight months later some 200 were dead. Most of the survivors surrendered

after U.S. troops dropped pamphlets saying the fighting was over, but Onoda did not believe them.

"I thought it was a trick," he said. With four companions he retreated deep into the jungle. After six years, one of the group gave himself up and revealed their names to the Philippine authorities.

Messages continued to be sent, but as there was always some mistake, such as a misspelt name, Onoda remained suspicious. The sound of warplanes flying overhead en route to battles in southeast Asia only strengthened his doubts.

One by one his companions died in clashes with Philippine patrols, the last one being killed in 1973.

Onoda kept on the move, never spending more than one night in any place. He lived off bananas and coconuts and the cattle he would kill once every two months, storing the smoke-cured meat in small stashes around the island.

But one day in early 1974, a Japanese, whom he knows as Mr. Suzuki, found him. At first Onoda thought he was Filipino and was all ready to kill him when he said in Japanese. "I came to look for you."

Even then Onoda only agreed to leave the jungle after the Japanese army sent a written order commanding him to surrender.

"I don't regret what I did. My orders were to fight to the finish. I am only sorry for those that died," he said.

But he found he was no longer suited to the hustle and bustle of modern Japan and opted to live in Brazil where the lush tropical vegetation and tranquility of rural life were more akin to what he had known during his years on the run.

Benfica-Porto goalless draw fails to reward record crowd

LONDON (R) — A record crowd of 120,000 packed into Lisbon's newly-enlarged Estadio de Luz at the weekend but Benfica and Porto failed to reward them with a goal.

The goalless outcome favoured Sporting, who beat Penafiel 1-0 to draw level with Benfica at the top of the Portuguese first division. Both clubs have 25 points and the same goal difference.

Benfica, unbeaten in 13 games, pressed hard in the first half, but Porto missed the best chance in the 73rd minute when Samuel fouled their Brazilian striker Juury only for veteran goalkeeper Bento to save Fernando Gomes's penalty.

Polish goalkeeper Josef Mlynarczyk, on his debut for Porto, also made several important saves.

Sporting's goal against lowly Penafiel was scored in the 22nd minute by Oceano from a Manuel Fernandes pass.

Juventus remained unbeaten in the Italian league and stayed six points clear at the top of the table despite being held 0-0 at struggling Avellino. Second-placed Napoli also drew, Diego Mar-

adona's 84th-minute penalty earning them a 1-1 result at Como. Polish midfielder Zbigniew Boniek, who moved from Juventus to Roma this season, scored two fine goals to set up a 4-0 win over visiting Atalanta, who have not won in the capital for 36 years.

The win moved Roma up one place to third in the table.

In Spain Real Madrid preserved their commanding four-point lead over champions Barcelona with a 3-0 win in Valencia.

After a goalless first half, Martin Vazquez gave Real the lead within three minutes of the restart. In the 69th minute Mexican Hugo Sanchez added a second following a corner and an injury-time goal

completed the scoring.

Real played most of the second half without goalkeeper Jose Otxotorena who was carried off after being accidentally struck in the face by Wilmar Cabrera. He was replaced by Agustin Rodriguez.

Barcelona won 3-1 at Real Zaragoza on a waterlogged pitch. Francisco Carrasco set up the first goal for Bernd Schuster in the 42nd minute and Scottish striker Steve Archibald, returning to action after being injured for four weeks, scored the second soon after the break but then had to go off with another injury.

Paraguayan Raul Amarilla, who replaced Archibald, laid on Barcelona's third for Carrasco.

Liverpool, Chelsea clash in fourth round Football Association Cup

LONDON (R) — Chelsea and Liverpool, leading contenders for this season's English soccer championship, come face to face in what promises to be an enthralling fourth round Football Association (F.A.) Cup tie later this month.

The match was one of only three clear-cut ties to emerge from Monday's draw following the large number of third round postponements and replays. Manchester City's all-first division clash with Watford and third-division Rotherham's visit to Arsenal were the others.

Fourth round matches will be played on Jan. 25.

Cup holders Manchester United will visit second division Sunderland, assuming the first division leaders survive their postponed tie against Rochdale at Old Trafford on Wednesday.

Liverpool, currently third in the first division, lost 2-0 at Chelsea when the sides met in a fifth-round clash four years ago.

The London side were a second division outfit then and will be an even tougher proposition now. Level on points with second-placed Everton and Liverpool but fourth in the standings on goal difference, Chelsea are well placed to clinch their first league title since

1955. They last won the F.A. Cup in 1970.

Liverpool, league champions eight times since 1972 but cup winners in 1965 and 1974 only, routed second division leaders Norwich 5-0 in their third round match on Saturday.

And they will need no reminding that they beat Chelsea in the semifinals before going on to lift the trophy for the first time more than 20 years ago.

Reigning champions Everton, who scraped into the fourth round draw with a 1-0 home win over fourth division Exeter on Saturday, will entertain either Not-

tingham Forest or Blackburn.

Last season's beaten finalists will be buoyed by the knowledge that several bookmakers have installed them as favourites to take the cup ahead of United and Liverpool.

Arsenal, whose reputation for coming unstuck against lower division opponents was eased by Saturday's 4-3 win at Grimsby, will enjoy their first home cup tie for three seasons.

But Rotherham, currently middle of division three, beat the Londoners when they last met in 1960 — taking their third round tie 2-0 in a second replay.

World cricket split draws closer

LONDON (R) — The spectre of the cricketing world splitting apart drew chillingly closer last week when the England "B" team's tour of Bangladesh was called off at four hours' notice.

England "B" had been scheduled to play in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe.

But with the players already assembled at London's Heathrow airport on Thursday night, the Bangladesh government announced that four players were unacceptable because of their South African connections.

Within 24 hours the Zimbabwe leg was again shrouded in doubt when a senior sports official warned that Martyn Moxon, Bill Athey, Kim Barnett and Chris Smith would also be barred there unless they signed a declaration

promising not to have any more sporting contact with white-ruled South Africa.

Although Bangladesh is very much a minor cricketing nation, observers believe Dhaka's action could precipitate the nightmare which has haunted administrators, players and fans alike — a split between black and white nations.

England are due to tour the West Indies later this month and there have been ominous rumblings from at least two islands because of the selection of four players who toured South Africa on a rebel tour in 1982.

Antigua, home of West Indies' captain Viv Richards, has already asked, and received, assurances from Graham Gooch that he is opposed to South Africa's ap-

artheid (racial separation) policy. More worrying though is the agitation in Trinidad where England are due to play two tests.

Demonstrations have been organised for the team's arrival with an election due shortly the apartheid issue is at the forefront of political debate.

When England last toured the Caribbean five years ago, the Guyana test was cancelled after the government there withdrew Robin Jackman's visitor's permit.

Although Guyana is not on this year's itinerary, England's Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) has consistently refused to allow politicians to dictate the selection of their teams.

Accordingly if any serious confrontation arose the TCCB could

be forced to recall their players. Pressure would then increase on India, who have objected to England players in the past, Pakistan and Sri Lanka to similarly ban England teams, threatening the fourth world cup due to be staged in India and Pakistan next year.

Ironically South Africa, the cause of the whole furore, is poised to benefit most from any divide.

Already at least 70 players from four countries have gone on rebel tours there.

And if the white nations — England, Australia and New Zealand — are restricted to competition among themselves the pressure to include South Africa, absent from test cricket since 1970, would become overwhelming.

India clinches Emirates' hockey trophy

DUBAI (R) — India held world hockey champions Pakistan to a 2-2 draw Sunday to clinch the Emirates' trophy on goal difference from West Germany.

Victory would have made India outright winners following the 3-3 draw between the West Germans and Britain earlier in the day and they appeared to be cruising home when they led 2-0 at half-time.

The result left India and West Germany level on four points from three games but the Indians took the trophy by virtue of a better goal difference.

Pakistan, one point behind, finished third with Britain bottom after one draw and two defeats.

In an enthralling game of attacking hockey, India took the lead after six minutes through captain Shahid Mohammad and they increased their advantage shortly before the interval when left-winger Zafar Iqbal scored with a sizzling drive.

But Pakistan refused to accept

defeat and they forced their way back into the game in the 49th minute with a fine goal by Farhat Hussain.

India suddenly looked vulnerable and Pakistan levelled the score in the 51st minute with a penalty stroke converted by centre-half Ayas Mohammad.

Earlier, Britain dented West Germany's hopes in another exciting game which produced five field goals.

Britain took an early sixth minute lead when Dods converted a cross from the right but the West Germans roared back through a superb solid effort from Blocher

and a Fischer penalty on the stroke of half-time.

Bachelor made it 2-2 in the 57th minute and although Hilgers put West Germany back in front two minutes later, substitute Kerry gave Britain their first point of the tournament with a 62nd minute equaliser.



Giant Slalom world champion skier, Markus Wasmeier, practices for this season's Alps skiing, Wasmeier, 22, won the world Giant Slalom championship last August skiing in Andines Mountains in Argentina (DNP/Sven Simon photo)

Batting collapses as Australia scrambles to draw in final cricket test against India

SYDNEY (R) — Australia, beaten in their previous four series, narrowly avoided another disaster when they scrambled to a draw in the third and final test against India at the Sydney cricket ground Monday.

The weakness of Australia's batting was again demonstrated by India as spinners Shivlal Yadav and Ravi Shastri, with 11 wickets between them Monday, forced the home side to follow on and then nearly grabbed victory as Australia slumped to 119 for six in their second innings.

Greg Ritchie and Ray Bright survived the final seven overs of play to earn their side a draw, the third in the series.

Australia, seemingly assured of

a draw at their overnight 347 for four, staged a dramatic collapse to be all out for 396 in reply to India's first innings' 600 for four declared.

Shastri started the rot by having Australian captain Allan Border superbly caught at long on after adding only seven to his overnight 64 not out.

When all-rounder Steve Waugh was next out his side needed only 14 runs to avoid the follow-on. But the last four wickets added just nine to leave Australia facing another ignominious defeat and their first series loss to India on home soil.

David Boon and Geoff Marsh, the heroes of the first innings with a record 217-run opening par-

tnership, again gave Australia a steady start with a 57-run stand, but the dismissal of Boon was the trigger for yet another collapse.

Boon was run out for 25, the only wicket Monday not to fall to Yadav or Shastri, and was immediately followed back to the pavilion by Marsh (28) caught at short leg off Yadav.

Three runs later Waugh, hoisted up the order by Border for the experience, was out leg before to Shastri for naught.

Wayne Phillips hung on with the doughty Ritchie for over an hour before being caught off Shastri, and entering the final 20 overs Australia were under siege at 96 for four.

Greg Matthews lasted 29 minutes before falling to Yadav and the Indians believed an unlikely win was in sight when Border, coming in at number seven, was removed by Yadav for only four.

But Ritchie, who ground out 17 runs in nearly three hours at the crease, and Bright stayed together for the last 20 minutes to ensure Australia did not lose their fifth successive series since 1983-84.

Yadav took five for 99 in the first innings, and three for 19 in the second off 33 overs. Shastri

followed his four for 101 in the first with two for 36 off 25 overs in the second.

"It was a difficult afternoon," admitted Border after the game. The tension of his side's batting collapse was compounded by news that his wife had given birth a fortnight prematurely.

"Today, we wanted the 401 in the best way possible — their spinners were bowling well and we couldn't expect to hit them off a length," he said.

"But me dropping down the batting order didn't have any domestic pressures — I wanted people like Matthews and Waugh to get experience against spin with tests in India coming up.

"Overall our fielding has been poor although we have been working hard with Bob Simpson on it. But we take heart that we didn't lose."

Border said he was glad the series was over as he was mentally exhausted. Asked if he was enjoying the captaincy he said: "I'm not necessarily enjoying it I'm just doing it."

Indian captain Kapil Dev had no doubt which side had proved itself superior over the three matches.

Irwin wins inaugural Bahamas golf classic

PARADISE ISLAND, Bahamas (R) — Hale Irwin, a two-time U.S. Open champion, pulled away from the field Sunday to claim the inaugural \$300,000 Bahamas classic by six strokes with a 72-hole score of 19-under-par 269.

Irwin, a winner of 17 PGA tour titles in his career, pulled away from fellow-American Scott Hoch over the back nine and shot a 67 to claim the \$72,000 top prize in this first event of the 1986 season.

The 40-year-old Irwin scorched the Paradise Island golf club course with birdies on the 10th, 13th, 14th and 15th holes while Hoch, with whom he shared the third-round lead, stumbled in with a 75 to land in fourth place at 277.

"I just fell back on my fundamentals," said Irwin. "I'm very happy with this turn of events."

Irwin got off to a shaky start when he drove into the water on the first hole but he recovered to make par and then birdied the second hole to regain a share of the lead.

NOTICE

1. Pius Alex Murzello, an Indian national residing in Jordan, hereby announce my intention to marry Welakuhuge Piyazeli, a Sri Lankan national residing in Jordan. The marriage will be solemnised by the embassy of India, Amman, under provisions stipulated by the Government of India after 30 days from the date hereof.

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DECEPTION
(Colour)
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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

Following are the buying and selling rates for the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| One ounce gold | 1,432.50 | U.S. dollars |
| One U.S. dollar | 1.496572 | Canadian dollars |
| One U.S. dollar | 2.475565 | West German marks |
| One U.S. dollar | 2.880900 | Dutch guilders |
| One U.S. dollar | 2.084555 | Swiss francs |
| One U.S. dollar | 50.5257 | Belgian francs |
| One U.S. dollar | 7.5875925 | French francs |
| One U.S. dollar | 1687.1689 | Italian lire |
| One U.S. dollar | 202.4353 | Japanese yen |
| One U.S. dollar | 7.61506250 | Swedish crowns |
| One U.S. dollar | 7.60106060 | Norwegian crowns |
| One U.S. dollar | 9.930050 | Danish crowns |
| One ounce of gold | 327.9032840 | U.S. dollars |

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed mixed with an easier bias after a higher opening attracted profit-taking, dealers said. The FT 100 share index rose to a record high of 1156.2 before reacting to a 144.9 at 1500 GMT for a net loss of 4.7 points. At 1530 the FTSE 100 index was 5.1 down at 1424.7.

It closed a penny up at 762 after 774. Becton was 10p lower at 348 while Distillers was unchanged at 496 after 498.

Government bonds pared earlier 5/8 losses to around 7/16 point, after recovering from the lows, dealers said. Golds and North American were firmer.

In a firm insurance sector General Accident was 7p off at 733 after its agreement to acquire Pilot Insurance of Canada for \$143.6 million to be financed by the issue of 14.33 million new ordinary shares in the company. Brokers Willis Faber rose 12p to 899. Banks were narrowly mixed.

Imperial group at 249 and United Biscuits at 229 were both 9p lower. Hanson Trust, which has made a bid for Imperial, was 4p lower at 195. Reed International fell 8p to 684.

Earlier on the London stock market, Shell was 558 and 668 respectively.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, JAN. 7, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A morning to decide what your overall aims are and to make the arrangements by which you can make them yours. Make changes. Be an extravert.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Contact persons out of town whose ideas are different to your own and make real progress today.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get into monetary affairs that are important and express yourself intelligently. Show that you are reliable.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get in touch with outside assistance and get much accomplished with this kind of support. Be courteous with everyone.

MEAN CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Get at that word child of you in an enthusiastic and happy fashion and you will be a success for you.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Make the plans to have a delightful time in the evening, and then follow through in the evening.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Plan how to add to your activities that will improve your home life. Plan a party in the evening.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Handle the correspondence that will bring new opportunities to advance into your life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have to give attention to financial and other practical matters today, and in the evening, an expert helps you out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have personal problematical affairs to study and by evening you can solve them wisely.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be sure that your motives are good in any activity you have started. Get together with the one you love in the evening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) See as many good friends as you can today and make new acquaintances. The evening is fine for enjoying amusements.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You can accomplish a great deal in the outside world, both today and in the evening. Don't neglect civic duties.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be interested in just about everything in the world, and should have as fine an education as possible. An independent child who should learn to be more cooperative with others for best results during the lifetime.

UAE delays implementing 1984 companies law for further year

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has delayed implementing a 1984 companies law for a further year due to legal and constitutional problems, the Dubai-based daily Al Bayan reported Sunday.

The 326-article law to regulate commercial companies in the seven-emirate federation was issued in March 1984 but has not been implemented because of differences between local and federal authorities and business opposition.

Al Bayan quoted economic sources as saying it gave the trade and economy ministry more powers than specified by the constitution, particularly on matters relating to local government powers.

The constitution gives individual emirates the powers to regulate local companies.

The decision to delay implementing the law was made at the last session of the UAE Council of

Ministers after the executive council of Abu Dhabi emirate submitted a memorandum noting administrative and financial problems it created.

Other sources said the economy and trade ministry lacked the staff to implement it.

The cabinet called on local governments to submit proposals on the law and formed a ministerial committee to handle recommendations.

Meanwhile, a senior UAE official said Sunday the 1986 budget of the emirate of Abu Dhabi — the largest contributor to the UAE's federal coffers — would be similar in size to those of the last three years.

But Sheikh Javan Salim, undersecretary of the Abu Dhabi Finance Department, told Reuters that allocations for development projects would be down in this year's budget.

Projected figures for this year's budget or for those in 1985 and

1984 have not been released, but 1983 spending was put at \$5.9 billion and revenues at \$5.48 billion.

Al Bayan Sunday quoted Sheikh Javan as saying the 1986 budget was expected to be issued before April. He said he expected it to be in deficit, although expenditure savings in some areas should reduce the shortfall from previous years.

The government would not borrow from banks if oil prices were steady, he said. "But if prices go down, this needs reconsideration of our plans in offsetting the deficit and we might resort to borrowing from local banks."

He said a deficit in 1985 was covered through special arrangements with national banks. This is apparently similar to arrangements made in 1983 and 1984.

The Abu Dhabi budget includes its contribution to the federal budget, last year put at \$2.58 billion.

Ozal ends 'extremely constructive' talks in

ANKARA (R) — Turkey and Iran have agreed to develop closer ties and boost trade, Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal said in Tehran Monday.

ANKARA (R) — Turkey and Iran have agreed to develop closer ties and boost trade, Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal said in Tehran Monday.

The semi-official Anatolian News Agency said he told a news conference his talks with Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi and other officials had ended in full agreement.

Mr. Ozal, due to return home Monday night at the end of a four-day visit, described the talks as "extremely constructive" and said officials of the two countries would meet more often.

They had agreed to boost trade volume this year to \$3 billion from some \$2.5 billion in 1985, he said. The \$3 billion target was set in

1984 but has never been reached, apparently because of a fall in Iran's oil income.

Turkey's Hurriyet newspaper said Monday Iran had agreed to cut the price of its oil supplies to Turkey from \$28.05 a barrel to \$26.55 at Kharg Island terminal, where insurance rates are high because of the risk of Iraqi attack, and \$27.05 for Sirri Island, further down the Gulf.

Press reports said Turkey agreed to buy five million tonnes of Iranian oil this year, but could vary the amount by 20 per cent either way. Imports in the first nine months of 1985 were 4.6 million tonnes, making Iran Turkey's biggest oil supplier.

Mr. Ozal said studies would

begin on pipeline talks with oil and gas to Turkey. The agency said to set whether Turkey's ties with the West and its relations with Islamic countries, resented a contradiction.

"We are a bridge between Islamic World and the West," quoted him as saying. "We have historically had ties with the Islamic World. We also have relations with the West and these will go on. We do not prefer one to the other."

Turkey's expanding ties with the Islamic World had upset "some circles," he said. But he added: "Turkey will continue to play an important role in bringing Islamic countries together."

Most of its population is Muslim, but Turkey has a strong secular tradition.

IMF accepts Sudan's plea

KHARTOUM (AP) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) agreed not to declare Sudan insolvent despite its inability to pay \$218 million in debt arrears, the state-owned press reported Monday.

Reports said Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayoub told the cabinet on Sunday that the IMF accepted the plea of a Sudanese delegation in Washington that the payment due last Friday be put off pending arrival of a delegation from the fund later this month.

Energy Minister Abdul Aziz Osman Mousa and his delegation that included Bank of Sudan Governor Ismail Al Musbah was to return from Washington on Monday. No date has been set for arrival of the IMF group.

The daily Al Ayyam reported that Mr. Siddiq Abdin, the agriculture minister and a member of the government's economic committee, said the delay means the IMF will not declare Sudan "unworthy of international support."

Such a declaration would imply that donor countries and lending arms of the IMF should stop lending.

General Abdul Rahman Swaraddhab's coup that ousted president Jaafar Numeiri last April inherited a debt of \$9 billion. General Swaraddhab has said interest alone is accumulating at \$800 million a year.

Sudan's relations with the IMF have caused turmoil in recent

weeks, which led to the resignation of Awad Abdul Majeed as finance minister.

He quit after the cabinet rejected in stormy, name-calling sessions most parts of an agreement that Mr. Abdul Majeed had worked out with the lending agency. Among austerity measures it would have imposed were removing subsidies on commodities, removing price controls and devaluing the Sudanese pound.

Commerce Minister Sidahmad Al Sayed told the daily Al Sahafa that IMF officials in Washington had agreed to five amendments to a plan of seven proposed by Sudan. He did not say which provisions would be changed.

Arab bank halts aid to Abidjan

KHARTOUM (R) — The Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) will halt assistance to Ivory Coast because it restored diplomatic relations with Israel, a senior bank official said Sunday.

He told Reuters that stopping aid was a mere procedural matter following Abidjan's decision, announced on Dec. 18, to resume

ties with Israel. The amount involved was not known.

The official, who asked not to be named, was elaborating on comments by Mr. Chedli Ayari, chairman of the Khartoum-based bank, in an interview with the Sudan News Agency (SUNA).

Mr. Ayari said it was the policy of the bank, set up in 1975 to channel Arab aid to black African

countries, to stop helping states which restored ties with Israel "because such behaviour means walking out from the arena of Arab-African cooperation."

He suggested an Arab-African summit be held to discuss common issues after reports that some African countries which broke with Israel after the 1973 Arab-Israeli war were likely to resume ties, SUNA reported.

Slowdown, falling profits darken outlook for Tokyo stock market

TOKYO (R) — Worries over a slowdown in Japan's economic growth and falling corporate profits are darkening the outlook for the Tokyo stock market in 1986, brokers said Monday.

But a continuation of the high liquidity which boosted the market in 1985 seems likely to offset at least some of the gloom, they said.

"There is nothing on the fundamental side to get excited about," said Mr. Peter Tasker, research analyst for Kleinwort Benson's Tokyo branch. "But there is still a lot of money around in Japan and a lot of money going into equities."

The government has forecast a four per cent real growth rate in Japan's gross national product for the fiscal year ending March 1987, but private sector economists estimated the figure at closer to two to three per cent.

"There will be a significant slowdown in the domestic economy," said Mr. Nick Gregory, research director at Hoare Govett. "In the new year, fundamentals will begin to come to the forefront again so prospects for the market are not terribly good."

The increased strength of the yen is sure to hurt corporate earnings for export-oriented issues, brokers noted.

The yen has risen more than 16 per cent against the dollar since

the Group of Five industrialised countries decided in late September to lead the dollar lower.

"Exports will be that much less competitive," said Mr. David Clapham, a broker at Jardine Fleming Securities. "I would be surprised if blue chips challenged their highs of the last two years," he said.

Some brokers said investor anxiety over trade friction and an American protectionist backlash could also dampen a recovery in blue chips and the market as a whole.

NEWS ANALYSIS

"There is a possibility the trade issue could resurface next spring," said an analyst at a major U.S. brokerage firm's Tokyo branch. "The market will not enter a stronger leg until there is more clarity on that issue," he said.

However, many brokers said expectations of lower earnings in the coming year have already been taken into account in the prices or export-related issues. "Blue chips are oversold now," said the American analyst.

This itself could make blue chips attractive again, they said. "Correcting oversold positions in shares will be one market theme," Mr. Tasker said.

Several brokers said domestic-oriented issues such as construction and properties, which

led the market for several months in 1985, will be a recurring theme in 1986. But how much of a rise can be expected for these issues remains unclear.

"If the government stimulates the economy, there could be another round in domestic, but it is problematic whether they can repeat their performance of 1985," said Mr. Robert Burghart, director of research at W.I. Carr. "There is a substantial margin overhang in constructions in particular which will continue until May," he added.

But properties, especially companies with urban land holdings or office buildings for rent, are likely to attract buyers, they noted.

Private railways, many of which also have large urban land holdings ripe for redevelopment, are also likely winners.

Telecommunications will be a major market focus, brokers agreed. The government has said it will sell off 1.95 million of the 15.6 million shares it holds in Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) Corporation, the former government monopoly which became a private firm last April. But foreigners are not allowed to buy the shares, they noted.

"The sale of NTT shares may create a boom around related telecom stocks," said Hoare Govett's Gregory.

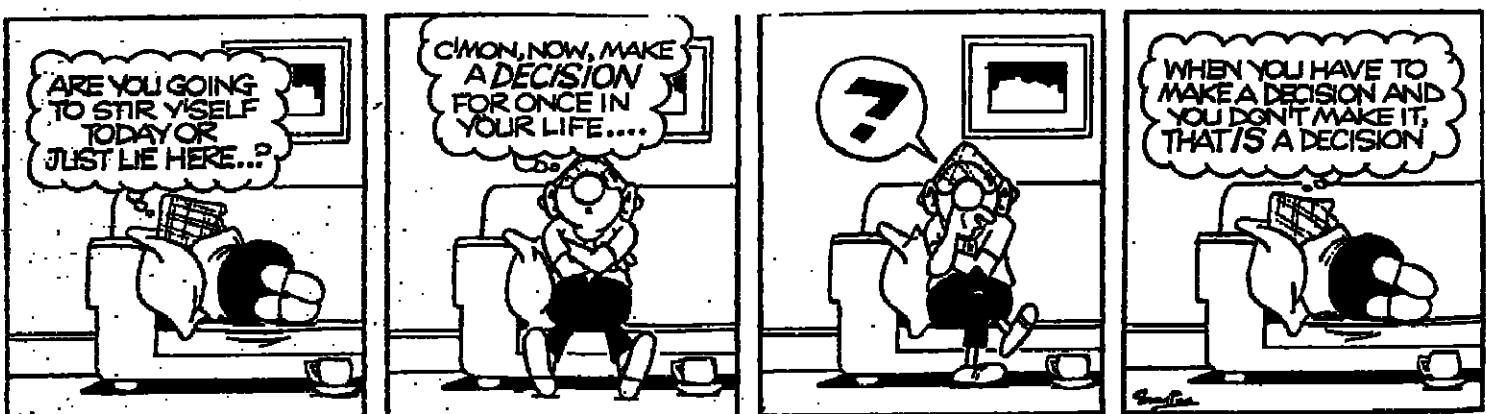
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff

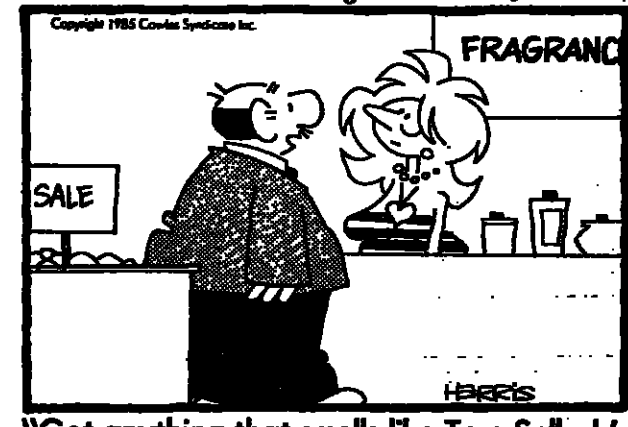


Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

INLOG

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CUDINT

NERKUB



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

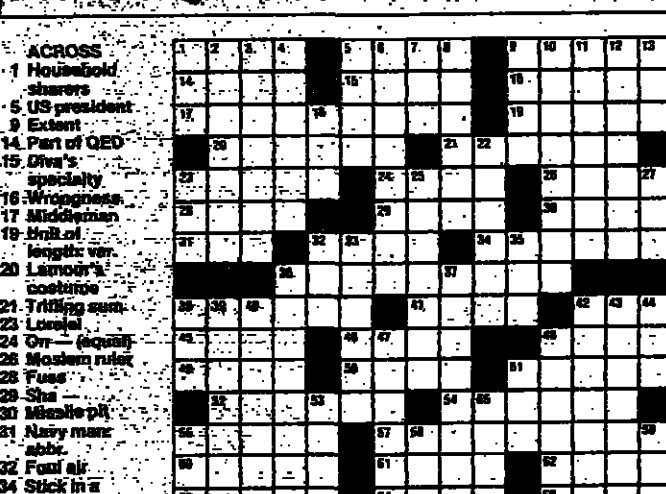
Answer here: "O O O O O O O O O O"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HASTY ABASH MARTYR CAMPUS

Answer: What any good junkman knows how to convert—TRASH INTO CASH

THE Daily Crossword by Victor Jambor, Jr.



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1. Houshold 2. Bigger 3. Short coats 4. Sound system 5. US president 6. Extinct 7. Part of CEO 8. Over's specialty 9. Wagon 10. Bull of 11. Longest river 12. Landmark 13. Telling sum 14. Lure 15. On—(equivalent) 16. Western rule 17. Fuse 18. Sea 19. Mistle 20. New name 21. Air 22. Stick in a game 23. Showman 24. Mild (remember) 25. Better than 26. Cambridge school letters 27. Comic Johnson 28. Highly watched 29. Blimpish comic form 30. Cheery 31. Sp. painter 32. Pervish 33. Land and snow 34. Cylindrical and tapered 35. One leather 36. Headman 37. Run, gold 38. Bewitching 39. Galle 40. Myster 41. Myster 42. Used humor 43. Down 44. Instrument 45. Star 46. Migration 47. Short 48. No longer working 49. Play 50. Had to have 51. Numerical prefix 52. Strike out 53. Threat 54. Scoop 55. Scoop, explorer 56. Spread hay

